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Later References.

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NEW DELHI 27th October 1949.

My dear Satyanarain Babu,

Sardar has asked me to send you the attached letter in original. You can discuss it with Sardar when you meet him next, so that an appropriate reply could be sent to Prof.Ranga.

Yours sincerely,

(V. Shankar)

The Hon'ble
Shri Satyanarain Sinha,
Minister for Parliamentary Affairs
NEW DELHI.

G.

PRIVATE SECRETARY,
FINANCE MINISTER,
INDIA.

2

No. 6882-PSF/49
New Delhi,
October 25, 1949.

My dear Shankar,

I am desired to send herewith a letter from Prof. N.G. Ranga protesting against the non-inclusion of his name in the Ad Hoc Committee with the request that it may be disposed of at your end as the final selection of names was made by the Hon'ble the Deputy Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely,

S. S. Shiralkar

(S.S.SHIRALKAR)

V. Shankar Esqr., ICS.,
Private Secretary to the
Hon'ble the Deputy Prime Minister,
NEW DELHI.

NEW DELHI, 22nd October 1949.

To

Nazirudddin Ahmad Esq.,
Member, Constituent Assembly,
21-B, Western Court,
NEW DELHI.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of the 20th October 1949. I am getting a translation of the article made and will then put it up to Sardar Patel. In the meantime, I had mentioned it to him and he has asked me to thank you for the kind thought which prompted you to send this article.

Yours faithfully,

Sd

(V. Shankar)

Q.

4

NAZIRUDDIN AHMAD
SENIOR ADVOCATE, FEDERAL COURT OF INDIA.
Member—
INDIAN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY
STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYS
CENTRAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RAILWAYS.

PHONE: DELHI

Delhi Address:—
21-B, WESTERN COURT, NEW DELHI
Home Address:—
BURDWAN, WEST BENGAL

The 20th October, 1949

The Private Secretary to
The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
1, Aurangzeb Road
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing herewith a copy of "Damodar" of the 14th instant. It is a weekly journal published in Burdwan. In the editorial comments the editor has made some very serious remarks about Sardar Patel on his speech in defence of the I.C.S. in the Constituent Assembly. This copy may be sent to the Govt. of West Bengal for necessary action.

Yours faithfully,
Nazirudin Ahmad

New Delhi,
9th October 1949. 5

Dear Mr.Pataskar,

Thank you for your letter of the 8th October 1949 addressed to Sardar Patel.

2. I am afraid with so many calls on him it will not be easy to find time for you separately, but I suggest that when he is in the House, you might find an opportunity of having a few words with him.

Yours sincerely,

(V.Shankar)

Shri H.V.Pataskar,
Advocate,MLA.,
26 Queensway,
New Delhi.

m

H. V. Pataskar
Advocate M. L. A. (Bom.)
Member Constituent Assembly
(India)

॥ श्री ॥

VENU NAD
Chalisgaon
Bombay Province

26 Queens Way
New Delhi
Telephone No 8505.

Date 8/10/49

My dear Sardar

I had come there yesterday to see Hon. bro Mavlankar, but at the time you were busy with the Working Committee meeting. I am really very happy to find that you are now restored to your normal health. I wish to call upon you & see you for a few minutes & therefore request you to inform me the time that would suit you either today or tomorrow. Wishing you best of health.

Yours sincerely

H. V. Pataskar

7

VBS
9/10

File

20, Windsor Place,
New Delhi.
8.10.49.

My dear Sardar Ji,

Jai Hind.

I am sorry to encroach upon your time. Kindly excuse.

I am informed that the Honorary Secy. of the Ramjas College Society has been served with the notice quoted in the margin, conveying the Government's intention to acquire its property situated on the Anand Parbat.

1. Notice dated 14.6.48 under Section 9 of Act I of 1894 from the Improvement Trust.
2. Notice dated 1.2.49 from Special Collector, Delhi, under Section 4 of the Resettlement of Displaced Persons (Land Acquisition) Act 60 of 1948.
3. Notice No.F.3(1)/49-R&R dated 11.1.49 from the Secretary, Relief and Rehabilitation to the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, under Section 3 of the Resettlement of Displaced Persons (Land Acquisition Act 1948) (Act No.L.X of 1948)

In the beginning I may point out that after all the attempts of the Society have failed to get a response to their representation from the Government, it was obliged to file its objections against the acquisition proposed, in the court of Senior Sub-Judge, Delhi. Leaving aside the legal aspects of the matter, there appears to be a strong case that the notices issued to the Society be cancelled forthwith in the interests of the Public. I sum up below for your perusal the factors in support of my this conviction.

If you are not already aware, I may mention for your information that the Ramjas College Society was founded about a quarter of a century ago by the late Shri Kidarnath after his retirement as a District and Sessions Judge from the Punjab who dedicated all what he had for the purpose. The site of the Anand Parbat (where the property is sought to be acquired) was selected to serve the rural and the Harijan population in particular as an item of the Rural Reconstruction

P.T.O.

Programme. The society has since thenbeen functioning as the only poineer institution in the field of education in the province of Delhi.

The property of the society was acquired on the death of the founder by the late Government of India also for the use of American Forces during the last war despite all protests. It was, however, released by the Government in 1946 after certain questions were raised about its release on the floor of the late Legislative Assembly by Shri Mohan Lal Saxena (now the Hon'ble Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation). The previous acquisition cannot, however, be taken as a precedent as there was then an all out effort to win the war without caring for the public sentiment as the winning of the War was a vital question of life and death for an alien Govt. The property is now being utilised for the following purposes:-

(a) One primary and another Higher Secondary Schools are run by the Ramjas College Society
(b) The Government of India are utilising the parts of the buildings and the land for the Government Agriculture College;
(c) The buildings contains two hostels - one run by the Society and another by the Agriculture College - catering to the needs of the board students; amd
(d) The other barracks and space are being utilised by the displaced persons for residential purposes.

It will, therefore, appear that the entire property of the society is being already utilised without its acquisition by the Government to the greatest and fullest benefit of the people. So much so that the society is prepared to offer more help to the Government whatever possible in their rehabilitation programme.

Although there are some other schools in the Qarol Bagh Area, including those run by the Ramjas College Society, the Ramjas Higher Secondary School

P.T.O.

7

VBR
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6

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P.T.O.

at Anand Parbat has the following advantages and facilities over the other schools:-

(i) It is the only school where arrangements exist for the teaching of medical group science subjects, and as such where medical group students are drawn from the other distant areas of the city;

(ii) Its science laboratory is the best fitted in the whole of the Delhi Province;

(iii) It is the only institution in the whole of the province where arrangements exist for the teaching of the Agriculture both theoretical and practical;

(iv) The standard and mode of living of the rural students who form the largest number of students in the school being altogether different from that of the city students in the other schools, it is the only institution considered to be their own by the rural population, suiting their children the most.

(v) There is no other school in Delhi where board accommodation for the rural students might be available.

There exists an acute shortage of educational institutions in Delhi. The number of the schools has decreased due to some of the Muslims school having been closed down, whereas the population in the Province has increased out of all proportion. Even the double shift system has not eased the problem. The proposed action of the Government has accordingly very much perturbed the citizens (specially the villagers). The displaced persons for whom the property is proposed to be acquired feel no less concerned over the action of the Government, for their demand for facilities being provided for the proper education of their children is, as it not more, important to them, as their demand for housing. The society utilises its entire property and income therefrom only for the educational purposes as agreed to by it in the Deed of the transfer of the property

P.T.O.

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dated the 26th November 1946 entered into with the Government. It has on its plan the opening of a Technical Institution, a Training College, a Girls School, etc. etc. as soon as possible.

It will not be out of place to mention also, that the Government have decided to become self-supporting in food by 1951. The facilities provided by the Society for the teaching of the agriculture, therefore, must be taken as a part and parcel of the government plans inasmuch as they make the students agriculture-minded rather than develop the sense for ministerial services.

The main sources of the income of the society is its property and its deprivation of the whole or stripping of a part of its property means crippling of the sources of income of the society.

I am sure you will appreciate that the Government is already in a financial difficulty and is not in a position to incur expenditure on the construction of education institutions over and above that what it is spending at present. The development of Delhi towards the Tehar and Shadipur Kham directions under the contemplation of the Government would not only give the school a more central position to meet the requirements of the population to be inhabitated in the newly developed areas but the existing facilities provided by the Society would save the Government from incurring any expenditure whatsoever to provide for the educational facilities.

In the circumstances explained above, I request you to very kindly give your serious consideration to the matter and issue orders for the cancellation of the notices of acquisition without the litigation being resorted to not only in the interests of the people and the national institution but also that of the good name of the government.

Apologising once more for the trouble I am giving you and thanking you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

Damodar Swarup Delhi

(Damodar Swarup Seth)

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar
Vallabhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister,
New Delhi.

11

B.J.Khandekar, MLA

Umrer Road, Nagpur, C.P.
Camp - 40 Constitution House
New Delhi. 11.10.49.

To

The Prime Minister of India
The Deputy Prime Minister of India
The President, Constituent Assembly of India
The President, Indian National Congress.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herein a copy of the resolutions passed at a meeting of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Members of the Constituent Assembly of India held on 8th and 9th October 1949, for your information and necessary action.

I have to point out that resolutions bear upon the urgent and immediate relief which the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes claim due to the various aspects which are hindering their progress.

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes members of the Constituent Assembly of India would be glad to be informed of the action you propose to take on these resolutions.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

B.J. Khandekar

Encl: 2

Chairman of the meeting.

Resolutions unanimously passed in a special meeting of the Constituent Assembly members representing the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes held on 8th and 9th October 1949 under the Chairmanship of Shri M.J.Khandekar, M.L.A., M.C.A..

There were 21 members present.

Shri V.I.Munniswamy Pillay, who presided in a similar meeting on 4th August 1949 informed the meeting that no reply or even an acknowledgement was received from the responsible leaders to whom these resolutions were communicated. He appealed that these resolutions must implemented by interviews with the authorities concerned as some of the matters are of vital nature in the interest of the Harijans.

Then Shri S. Nagappa, Convener, placed the resolutions before the meeting for discussion and they were accepted in the following form:-

(1) In furtherance of the resolution dated 4th August 1949 the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes M.C.As. resolve that their services should be at the disposal of the President for the purpose of compiling an accurate and comprehensive list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the new Constitution and request the President to publish the list only after their approval of it.

(2) It has come to the notice of the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Constituent Assembly that interested persons who are not the accredited representatives of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, are exploiting the above castes to send petitions requesting elimination of some communities from the existing list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes,; this meeting resolves that neither the Government of India nor the Drafting Committee nor the Constituent Assembly of India need entertain any such application. This meeting of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes members of the Constituent Assembly are strongly opposed to any attempt to eliminate any community from the existing list.

(b) Resolved that the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should form part of the Constitution and that provisions should be made therein for their accurate compilation.

(3) Resolved that Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes be designated in the electoral rolls to obviate confusion at elections and appointments.

(4) Resolved that Government, Central and Provincial, should ensure the recruitment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to all the Services and that foreign appointments and assignments should form part of the services.

(5) Resolved that there should be a separate Ministry at the Centre for Backward Classes(i.e. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other backward communities).

(6) In giving effect to the Economic Committee's recommendations, it is feared that the position of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes members in services, who have been recruited in recent years on the special percentage fixed by the Government will be greatly affected by their being sent away from the services and this meeting prays the Central Government not to bring the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the matter of retrenchment. This meeting further requests that in the matter of promotion in Government services the same percentage as in recruitment must be maintained.

In view of the fact that the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the services is still almost negligible Central and Provincial, it is resolved that no retrenchment should affect Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes servicemen.

p.t.o.

(7) This meeting is greatly disturbed to see negligible percentage of members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes recruited to the Indian Administrative Services and Indian Police Services and requests the Government of India to set up a Scrutinizing Committee to examine the lists of applications and allot a better percentage of posts on populations basis. A few members of the Provincial and Central Legislatures may be co-opted to the Scrutinizing Committee.

(8) This meeting resolves that in every Selection Board or Committee i.e. Provincial and Federal Services Commissions etc. the backward classes(Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) should be represented by at least one member from the above Committees.

(9) This meeting resolves that a special provisions should be made for the backward classes (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) by reserving an adequate quota of the foreign studies.

(10) This meeting resolves that a uniform procedure for the appointment of ministers, provincial, central, states and unions should be followed to ensure the minimum representation of the Backward Classes (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) according to their population.

(11) This meeting of the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the Constituent Assembly resolves that in every selection Board or Committees - Provincial or Federal Service Commissions - the backward classes (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes)should be represented by at least one member from the above communities.

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9 Kaiserbagh
Lucknow.
9. 10. 49.

14

Dear Mr Shanker.

I am herewith enclosing a letter for the Hon'ble Sardar Saheb. As it deals with a very important matter which will be coming up in this session of the Assembly I hope You will kindly lay it before him soon.

Yours sincerely
Begum Aijaz Rasul

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Lucknow.

Oct. 1, 1949.

Dear Sardar Sahib,

I am writing this letter to your about the amendment to sections 296 and 299 of the Draft Constitution which Dr. Ambedkar proposes to move and which read as follows:-

That for 296 the following articles substituted:-

296. The claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the scheduled tribes and such other backward classes as the President may on receipt of the report of a Commission appointed under clause (1) of articles 301 of this of this constitution by order specify in this behalf shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointment to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State".

Claims of Scheduled Castes and scheduled tribes to services and posts.

376. That for articles 299, the following articles be substituted:-

"Special Officer for minorities."

299 (1) There shall be a Special Officer for minorities to be appointed by the President.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Special Officer to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for minorities under this Constitution and to report to the President upon the working of the Safeguards at such intervals as the President may direct, and the President shall cause all such reports to be laid before

each House of Parliament."

Explanation. For the purposes of this articles, the expression "minorities means the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled tribes and such other backward classes as the President may on receipt of the report of the Commission appointed under clause (1) of articles 301 of this Constitution, by order, specify, and include the Anglo-Indian Community.

Dr. Ambedkar told me that this is the necessary consequence of the minorities, except the scheduled castes, giving up their claim to a reservation of seats in the Legislature. I may say atonce that none of the representatives of the xx minorities ever understood that this would be a consequence of their agreement to give up the right of representation in the legislatures through members of their community. A reference to the report of the Advisory Committee on Minority Rights dated the 27th. August, 1947, will show that representation in the Legislatures and reservations for minorities in the Public Services were treated as standing on altogether different footings. The Committee recommended reservations of seats for minorities but did not recommend the grant of any constitutional guarantee to the minorities in the matter of employment in the Public Services. It, however, said, " at the same time it is clear to us that consistently with the need of efficiency in administration, it is necessary for the state to pay due regard to the claims of minorities in making appointments to public services. We recommend, therefore, that as in the case of appointment to Cabinets, there should be in some part of the constitution or the schedule an exhortation to the Central and Provincial Governments to keep in view the claims of all

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the minorities in making appointments to public services consistently with the efficiency of administration."

Later this same report proceeds:

"The minorities representatives in the committee naturally attached importance to the provision of administrative machinery for ensuring that the guarantee and safeguards provided for the minorities both in the constitution and executive orders are in fact implemented in practice. After considerable discussion, we have come to the conclusion that the best arrangement would be for the centre and for each Province to appoint a special minority officer whose duty will be to enquire into cases in which it is alleged that right and safeguard have been infrigned and to submit a report to the appropriate legislatures."

Thus the provisions which took the shape of sections 296 + 299 in the Draft Constitution were quite independent of the representation in the Legislature. They were included in it to see that the authorities concerned implemented the policy of the State of affording equal opportunities to all its citizens irrespective of caste, creed or community. It was intended to inspire confidence in the minorities in the matter of their economic welfare and to prevent their being victimised by subordinate officials who may not be inclined to carry out the policy of the Government.

A reference to your letter dated the 11th. May 1949 to the President of the Constituent Assembly, shows that the proposals of the minorities Committee in its earlier report were left untouched except in regard to reservation of seats in the Legislature. By his amendments Dr. Ambedkar desires to abrogate not

not only the recommendation contained in that report but also the acceptance of these recommendations by the Constituent Assembly. The only resolution that has been passed since the acceptance of the report was the one passed at your instance on the 25th. May 1949 and it was in these words.

"Resolved that ~~as~~ the Constituent Assembly do proceed to ~~n~~ take into consideration the Report dated the 11th. May 1949 on the subject to certain political safeguards for Minorities submitted by the Advisory Committee appointed by the resolution of the Assembly of 24th. January 1947.

"Resolved further-

(i) That notwithstanding any decision already taken by the Constituent Assembly in this behalf, the provisions of Part XIV of the Draft Constitution of India be so amended as to give effect to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in the R Report and

(ii) That the following classes in East Punjab namely, Mazhabits, Ramdasis, Kabir-panthis and Sikligars be included in the list of Scheduled Castes for the province so that they would be entitled to the benefit of representation in the Legislatures given to the Scheduled Castes."

Thus the only alteration made is in the matter of political safeguards and there is no justification for the proposed amendments, to articles 296 and 299.

I would be failing in my duty if I did not point out to you that, inspite of the fact that the guarantee contained in these articles is of a very mild character, the minorities attach the greatest

(5)

importance to it. Articles 296 and 299 cannot effect any policy which the government or the legislature of the Union of any State may choose to adopt they are only a safeguard against subordinate authorities failing to carry out the policy adumbrated. The minorities feel, from an experience of the past two years that such guarantees are still essential, because the subordinate officials have in many cases, entirely nullified the avowed policy of the State, and the minorities are, in the absence of any such officer as is mentioned in articles, 299, helpless in obtaining redress.
At the present moment the minorities have their own representatives, in future there will be no such representatives and conditions are liable to deteriorate unless at least articles 296 and 299 in their present form are retained.

I, therefore, earnestly request you to kindly intervene in the matter and to persuade Dr. Ambedkar to withdraw his amendments.

Hoping that you are quite well

Yours sincerely,
Begum Aijaz Rasul

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhai Patel
Deputy Prime Minister
New Delhi.

20

'7th September 1949.

My dear Sardar Sahib,

I was much heartened to hear the news of your fast convalescence from Rafi sahib. I hope you will soon recover fully and be hale and hearty to continue to serve with your indomitable will the cause of Motherland.

I take liberty here of drawing your immediate attention to a very serious situation that has been created in Delhi, U.P., and other parts of India since the provisions of new Evacuee Property Ordinance have been put into operation. Thousands of Muslim nationals of the Union have been treated as evacuees and deprived of their properties. Numerous shops and houses closed and sealed, with the result that thousands of Indian citizens have been rendered homeless, deprived of their belongings and means of living. Muslims have been very rudely shaken. All this, as I think, has caused a very serious setback to what Mahatmaji had achieved through his martyrdom. On one hand the Ordinance is very vague and gives almost dictatorial powers to executive officials, that is Custodian Officials, inconsistently with fundamental rights of citizenship, and debars victims from approaching civil courts for redress, and on the other these vague provisions have relentlessly used in a spirit which cannot be characterised as other than that of retaliation. I beg to enclose herewith two papers one giving the kind of excesses committed, and the other suggesting amendments in the Ordinance, necessary for protection of the interests of non evacuee muslims, citizens of the Union.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,
M. Hifzur Rahman.
H.Hifzur- Rahman.

Hon'ble Sardar Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister, India,
New Delhi.

Hon'ble Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru,
Prime Minister, India,
New Delhi.

Most Respected Sir,

We members of the Working Committee of Jamiat Ulamai Hind beg to draw your attention to a very srious situation that has been created in Delhi, U.P. and some other parts of Indian Union, since the new Evacuee Property Ordinance has been put into operation. Muslims who never went to Pakistan and have been living in the Indian Union as her citizens are being enlisted as evacuees and deprived of their properties. This has rudely shaken Indian Muslims and is in effect tantamount to uprooting them. The following gross malpratices have been reported :-

1. Muslims nationals of India who never went to Pakistan nor any one of their relatives did so have been treated as Evacuees. In Saharanpur shops have been taken over and sealed despite of the fact that both the tenants and owners were living in India as her citizens.

2. Muslims nationals of India have been treated as Evacuees as some of their near or distant relatives have gone to Pakistan, though the migrant relatives enjoyed no proprietory right to or interest in their properties. Muslims were deprived of their properties for some of their brothers, major sons, major daughters or even sons-in-law who had been living independently of them and had no partnership or interest in their property, had left for Pakistan. Numerous cases of this nature have been reported from Moradabad, Bijnor, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Lucknow and other Dist. of U.P. and Delhi.

3. Muslim tenants in Evacuee property were served with notices giving 24 to 72 hours maximetime to vacate the premises , or they would be evicted with Police force. Some old tenants were thrown out out with police force even without such prior notice. In U.P. villages people living for 50 or 60 years have been evicted and their premises sealed. This has rendered alarge number of muslims homeless. This happened in Bareilly, Moradabad, Amroha and Delhi. According to the provisions and the meaning of the law the Custodian has to superwise and manage the property on behalf of the owners assuming their rights of ownership, but he is not entilted to interfer with those occupying it lawfully as tenants. He has to accept them as tenants under him.

4. The officials of the Custodian Department conducted almost a war of nerves against helpless muslim minority when they took over or sealed some property or evicted their occupants. They came accompanied by large number of refugees who shouted inflamatory slogans and indulge in obscene hooting. And un-necessary show of police force was also made on such occasions All this sends terror into muslim population.

5. Properties have been taken over by the Custodian without any proper enquiry as to whether these were Evacuee property or not and without affording the owners an opportunity to show that they were not Evacuees. Actions is generally taken on unreliable reports from refugees living in the neighbourhood. The officials on receipt of such reports generally sweeped down or raided the places and seal them up.

6. Properties of :-
   (a) those who have gone for pilgrimage for Haj to Mecca,
   (b) those who died in the Indian Union and their heirs are here,
   (c) those who once, long before partition had to live in the areas now farming parts of Pakistan on account of service

or business but now are living in Indian Union as her citizens
(d) those who married before partition in areas now forming part of Pakistan.
(e) those who have gone to Pakistan for a short visit having obtained a certificate of Indian nationality from their local authorities.
are being treated as Evacuees.

As regards (e) it is interesting to note that on one hand the Indian High Commissioner in Pakistan has been instructed not to treat certificates of nationality as valid and thus preventing such persons from returning home and on the other hand their properties are being taken over by the Custodian as Evacuee Property. Such cases have occurred in Delhi and U.P.

7. About 80 out of 90 shops in Shoe Market in Agra have been closed down and sealed by the Custodian officials. Most of these shop's owners cannot be regarded evacuees in any sense of the term. This sealing of the shops on mere suspicion has rendered thousands of workers without a living. The flourishing Shoe Industry of Agra is threatened with complete ruination.

8. 'Movable property with in immediate physical 'possession ' of the the muslims alleged are suspected to be evacuees have been taken po possession of by the Custodian. Such property has been specifically excluded from the definition of Evacuee property in the new Evacuee Ordinance. The cash, ornaments, house hold goods personal belongings and other such articles have been taken possession and sealed. The most pathetic example is that of one Mohd Salim running a shop at Bazar ganj Moradabad. He was thrown out of his shop and the shop sealed. Later when he was found on being searched possessing Rs.150/- in currency notes, the money was snatched and thrust inside through the openings of the doors.

9. The movable property in shops sealed by the Custodian including such goods as raw skins, fruits, pans, provisions and like perishable articles. The sealing of sugh shops has ve resutled in huge losses to the shopkeepers. Some poor merchants have been totally ruined.

10. Almost all petitions for removal of seals on the shops filed by Delhi merchants are still pending before the custodian, despite of the fact that the Custodian had assured that all such cases would be decided with two weeks to avoid loss to the owners. More than two month months have now passed and this assurance had not been fulfiled. One date is given after another. The owners are being subjected to huge financial loss and extreme harrasment.

11. Residential properties and business establishments illegally taken over by the Custodian were alletted before the claims of owners for resteration were decided. In many cases the owners, as provided in the law filed objections to the legality of the Custodian's action in taking over their properties and applied for resteration of these on the plea that they were not evacuees, but the property were disposed of or allotted to the refugees by the Custodian when these petitions were still pending before him.

12. Muslims who extended their business to the neighbouring dominion or acquired property from Hindus and Sikhs on payment of fair value thereof are being treated as Evacuee. They did so as they believed that the Union allowed them freedom of trade and their doing business in Pakistan would not prejudice their status as the Indian nationals. As we gathered from our talks with some Ministers, only those persons who got Evacuee property in Pakistan by way of allotment or by un-lawful occupation or by any other illegal means will be treated as Evacuees, but those who purchased property on payment of fair value to the non-muslim owners who were still in Pakistan, and whose transaction cannot be characterised as other than legally valid are not to be treated as Evacuees.

13. The property lawfully purchased by muslims from other muslims who later migrated to Pakistan are being treated as Evacuee property. these purchases were made on payment of fair value and when made were

not forbidden by any law, and as such cannot be treated as other than legally valid transactions. Such cases took place in Moradabad and other districtsof U.P.

14. Muslims tenants in Evacuee property are being demanded to pay rent for 17 or 32 months irrespective of the fact when they occupied it and how much of the rent they have already paid to the owners or their agents. This is being done to force the poor muslims to abondone the premises they occupy.

15. Muslims of C.P. who had left for Hyderabad under fear of civil disturbances before the Police Action are being still treated as evacuees , These muslims cannot be treated as Evacuees firstly because they have returned to their homes and secondly Hyderabad now forms part of the Indian Union.

16. Persons whose cases have been once investigated under the new E.P.Ordinance and who have been found and declared as non-evacuees are being again and again treated as evacuees. The Inspectors and the Asstt. Custodians harras them and attempt to prove them some how or other as Evacuees.

17. The properties, business or residential, shared by Evacuees and non-Evacuees partners have been taken over in entirety. Many such business establishments have been taken over and sealed. The Custodian should assume rights of ownership to the extent of Evacuees interest in the property. He should not interfere with the interest of the non-evacuees, not shoudl he evict or dislodge the non-evacuee partners from the house or the business. The non-evacuee partners should be allowed to live in such houses and run such businesses and the Custodian shoudl ne entitled to receive the interest that is due to the evacuee partners.

We members of the Working Committee of Jamiat Ulamai Hind were of opinion that the above malpractices were entirely due to arbitrary and improper acts pf the lower staff interested with the enforcement of the previsions of the new Evacuee Property Ordinance and cannot be the result of any settled policy of the Government butthe Working Committee was wonder struck on reading a report of the instructions from the Custodian of the U.P.Government to the District Magistrates as published in the Statesman dated 2nd September, 1949, a cutting of which is enclosed herewith and which go to show that these incidents are the result of the irresponsible and illegal acts of the lower staff but ha e taken place under the instructionsof the responsible officers of the Government.

These instructions direct the District Magistrate that " where doubts exist with respect to any property it would be wise to include it in the list rather than th exclude it by giving the benefit of doubts". It says that District Magistrate is not to insist on evidence admissible under the Indian Evidence Act when the information furnished by displaced persons appears to be correct, " and taking of help from outside agencies and accepting the information supplied by the refugees without proof is provided and encouraged.

It is worth mentioning in this connection that the E.P.Ordinance is a peace time legislation and not a war time measure which is to be enforced against all juristic principles and against accepted principles of evidence and procedure. This Ordinance is to be enforced only with a proper appreciation of the fundamental rights of the citizens of the Indian Union and according to the practise and procedure provided by the law of the country and the Ordinance itself. Large number of citizens of the Indian Union should not be deptived of their properties and are not to be turned out of the houses under the cover of the Ordinance. Such illegal acts of the officials are likely to embarras the muslims and to create an impression in their minds that their property and tenancy rights are not safe in the Indian Union and they can be deprived of their property without any evidence and proper process of law, and they can be turned out of their houses and thrown out helpless on the streets.

Therefore the Working Committee of the Jamiat Ulamai Hind draws the attention of the Hon'ble the Prime Minister and the cabinet towards this important matter and hopes that they give a hearing to complaints of poor muslimcitizens and would protect their fundamental and civic rights from illegal and un-principles actions of the officials.

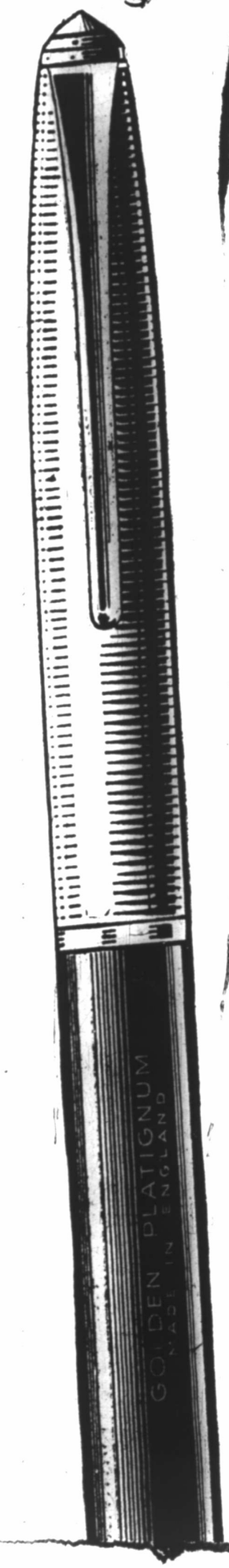
Yours Sincerely,

6-9-1949

Members of the Workin g Committee
Jamiat Ulamai Hind Delhi.

1. Syed Hussain Ahmad Madani President Jamiat Ulamai Hind.
2. Mufti Mohd Kifayatullah Delhi.
3. Ahmad Sayeed Vice President Jamiat Ulamai Hind.
4. M.Hifzur Rahman General Secretary, Jamiat Ulamai Hind.
5. Habibur Rahman Vice President Jamait Ulamai Hind.
6. Nuruddin Bihari Secretary Jamiat Ulamai Hind.
7. Abdul Halim Siddiqi
8. Abdus Samad Rahmani (Bihar)
9. Syed Nurullah Mongheri(Bihar)
10. Bashir Ahmad President Provl. Jamiat Ulama i U.P. & M.L.C.
11. Syed Fakhruddin (Moradabad)
12. Mohd Ahmad Kazmi (Allahabad)
13. Syed Mohd Shahid Mian Fakhri (Allahabad)
14. Mohd Mian Farooqi (Allahabad)
15. Abul Wafa(Shahjahanpur)
16. Mohd Qasim Shahajahanpur)
17. Sh. Mohd Jan (Calcutta)
18. Mufti Atiqur Rahman Usmani(Delhi)
19. Syed Mohd Jafri (Delhi)
20 Hilal Ahmad Zuberi (Delhi)
21. Syed Mohd Mian Cersertary Jamiat Ulamai Hind Delhi
22. Abdul Jalil (Asam)
23. Ghulam Rasool Qureshi (Ahmedabad)
24. Mohd Riazuddin Sahib (Bihar)

THE GOLDEN
Platignum



SPEED IN ACQUISITION OF EVACUEE PROPERTY

U.P. CUSTODIAN'S INSTRUCTIONS TO DISTRICT MAGISTRATES

FROM OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE IN THE U.P.

LUCKNOW, Aug 31.—Instructions issued by the U.P. Custodian to the district magistrates emphasize the necessity of expedition in the work of acquiring evacuee property. "This is a task in which no time can be lost", is one of the injunctions.

Where doubts exist with respect to any property, he says, it would be wise to include it in the list rather than to exclude it by giving the benefit of the doubt. "We will have sufficient time later on to determine the nature of the property, when objections or claims are filed."

In subsequent instructions, this point is re-emphasized. In tracing evacuee property, the co-operation of outside agencies is being solicited.

The custodian says that if the information furnished by displaced persons appears to be correct, the district magistrate is not to insist on evidence admissible under the Indian Evidence Act.

"You are not required to weigh such evidence in a goldien scale, nor is an insistence on legal proof desirable . . . . Giving the benefit of the doubt to the owners reported to be evacuees would not accord well with the spirit of the Ordinance."

BAN ON SALE

Referring to the Government's ban on the sale of Muslim property in 12 districts, "except under sanction from the collector of the district", the Custodian says applications for sanction should not be dealt with by collectors in their capacity as deputy custodians. "Government has separately issued certain directions in this [illegible]

A difficulty experienced relates to transfers of properties to displaced persons from Pakistan. A large number of applications have been received from such persons, pleading that their transactions should not be disturbed. The Custodian has asked the district magistrates to keep these applications pending for disposal by the Assistant Custodian for judicial work.

If a person living in India has financed a transaction in Pakistan for acquisition of interest in property by a relation, he would be declared an evacuee in India, even if the property in Pakistan is not in his own name. In view of the fact that he supplied the finance for such transaction, the presumption would be that he had an interest in it.

The greatest difficulty of the Custodian staff relates, however, to movable property. It is not easy to ascertain the owner of such property, which could be easily claimed by relations or tenants living in the same house. A large amount of property has been shifted outside the range of the Custodian's reach.

The most conspicuous example related by the Custodian to me was about the expensive cutlery, furniture, carpets and other household goods, valued at many thousands of rupees, belonging to Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan. Most of it is reported to be missing. A search is proceeding.

The Custodian does not propose to touch the personal bank accounts of any evacuees, but a distinction is made between personal accounts and the accounts of a business firm which are frozen when the business is taken over.

TRANSFER OF

IMPOSITION OF TAX ON VISITORS TO DELHI

BY A STAFF REPORTER

Delhi Municipal Committee on Thursday decided to levy a tax on all visitors coming to Delhi by air, train and road.

The tax will be eight annas for upper class passengers, four annas for inter class and two annas for third class passengers. It will be collected from people from to Delhi from places more than 30 miles away.

The Committee requested the Chief Commissioner to move the Governor-General in Council to sanction the proposal and the Railway Board to agree to collect the tax with the railway fare. The Committee further decided to make its own arrangements to collect the tax from people arriving by road or air.

The Committee considered itself justified in imposing the tax in view of the increase in its expenditure on public health and the public demand for additional amenities and conveniences.

Mr Ram Singh asked the Committee to postpone the tax on the ground that the Committee was not in immediate need of money.

Sardar Sunder Singh Dhupia considered the new tax unjustified.

The President explained that it would be more than a year before the Government's sanction was received.

DR. B. V. KESKAR RETURNS TO DELHI

Dr B. V. Keskar, India's Deputy Foreign Minister, returned to Delhi on Wednesday night from Kabul. He has abandoned for the time being his proposed visit to Iran, Cairo and Nairobi.

Dr Keskar, who was for a week in Kabul in connexion with the Afghan independence celebrations, said he was struck by the deep friendship and admiration which the Afghan had for India.

There were over 20,000 Afghan Hindus and Sikhs in the State, and they enjoyed the same degree of freedom as the majority community, he added. There were a number of Hindu temples and over half a dozen Sikh gurdwaras in Kabul itself and people lived in peace and amity. There was conscription in Afghanistan and every man was required to serve in the army for some time.

Dr Keskar said that Afghanistan favoured the idea of Asian States coming together for common good.—PTI.

RAILWAYS TO REVERT TO 4-CLASS SYSTEM

The Central Advisory Council for Railways at its meeting yesterday decided to revert to the four-class system on the railways.

The four classes will be first class, second class special, second class ordinary and third class.

Sleeping and reservation facilities will be available in the second class special.

It is learnt that this decision will be given effect to as early as possible.—UPI.

OPENING OF POOR HOUSE DELAYED

BY A STAFF REPORTER

The opening of the poor house on Kingsway, scheduled for Thursday, has been postponed for another month.

The poor house since its construction two years ago, has been used by the Rehabilitation Ministry for accommodating destitute refugee women. It was agreed to vacate the building in August and remove the present occupants to a house in Mehrauli. Their transfer has been delayed because of certain "unavoidable" difficulties in requisitioning a building.

Delhi Municipal Committee recently decided that begging should be made illegal, but no action can be taken till a poor house, is available for lodging beggars and destitutes.

ALL-JAMMU YOUTH CONFERENCE

MISSION TO VISIT DELHI

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A seven-man goodwill mission on behalf of the All-Jammu National Youth Conference is due to arrive in Delhi today. The mission has already toured East Punjab.

Its object is to acquaint the people with the latest situation in Jammu and Kashmir State and to establish cordial relations with the neighbouring provinces.

The mission is expected to meet Pandit Nehru and Mr N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar during its stay in Delhi.

RESTRAINT ORDER ON SABHA SECRETARY

The District Magistrate of Delhi on Thursday served an order on Mr Ashutosh Lahiri, General Secretary of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha, who arrived in Delhi from Calcutta on Wednesday evening restraining him from making any speech, taking part in any meeting, demonstration or procession and associating, directly or indirectly, with any person in any activity prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order.

The order was issued by the District Magistrate on June 30, but Mr Lahiri was away in Calcutta.

Violation of the order, which will be in force for three months from the date on which it was served, is punishable with imprisonment, which may extend to three years, or with fine or both.

The order further prohibits Mr Lahiri from publishing "any rumour or report by words either spoken or written or by signs or visible or audible representation or otherwise which brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or excites or attempts to excite disaffection towards the Government established by law in India".

ORDINANCE AS IT STANDS.	PROPOSED AMENDMENT WITH REASONS THERE OF.
Section (2)(c)(i).	
(i) who, on account of the setting up of the Dominions of India and Pakistan or on account of civil disturbances or the fear of such disturbances, leaves or has, on or after the 1st day of March, 1947, left any place in the Province for any place outside the territories now forming part of India, or	Delete "on account of disturbances or fear of disturbances, Alter "on or after the 1st day of March 1947" to on or after the 15th day of August 1947", Add "permanently" after "left", Change "For any place outside the territories now forming part of India" to "For any place in the territories now forming part of Pakistan", The present definition of evacuee in this clause is too extensive and unfair and a negation of ordinary rights of citizenship. For instance if a man is faced with the alternative of being attacked, looted and massacared and of running away to some adjoining territories temporarily to save his life and dignity and then returns to his country, he should be permitted to do so without his being declared an evacuee. Partition of India took place on the 15th of August 1947. It would be unfair to treat a person who went temporarily to territories now forming part of Pakistan, before that date, as an evacuee. The word "has left" obviously means, a person who has left for good and does not include a person who left temporarily. This should be made clear by the insertion of the word "permanently" or the words "and has not returned", so that people who went for a visit may not be harrassed unnecessarily by Executive Authority. In any case there was a notification by the Government that persons who return by the 10th of September 1948 to the Indian Dominion from Pakistan would be permitted to remain in the Indian Union permanently. Such persons therefore should be particularly excepted from the operation of this Ordinance. The object is to differentiate between genuine residents of India and those of Pakistan, therefore the widening of the countries to which a person might have gone after the setting up of the Dominions of India and Pakistan, to cover the rest of the world, is unfair and a restriction of the right of a subject to travel anywhere he liked freely.
Section (2)(c)(ii).	
(ii) who is resident in any place now forming part of	Substitute "who is permanently residing in any place....." instead of the words "is resident in any place.....".

Pakistan and who for that reason is unable to occupy, supervise or manage in person his property in the Province or whose property in the Province has ceased to be occupied, supervised or

Sec(2)(e)(ii) Contd.

managed by any person or is being occupied, supervised or managed by an unauthorised person, or

Section (2)(e)(iii).

(iii) who has, after the 1st day of March, 1947, acquired in any manner whatsoever any right to, interest in or benefit from any property which is treated as evacuee property under any law for the time being in force in Pakistan.

Sec.(e)(iii) The words "acquired in any manner whatsoever" be deleted, and the words "acquired by way of allotment or by unlawful occupation or by any other illegal means" be substituted.

After 1st day of March 1947 be changed to "after the 15th of Aug. 1947.

Retention of the present clause without the suggested changes would work as a great hardship and would penalise large number of honest and bonafide transactions carried out between persons leaving Pakistan of their own free will and selling property to Indian subjects at a fair and mutually agreed price.

Section 2(d).

(d) "evacuee property" means any property in which an evacuee has any right or interest or which is held by him under any deed of trust or other instrument, but does not include

(i) any movable property in his immediate physical possession;

(ii) any property belonging to a joint stock company, the head office of which was situated in any place now forming part of Pakistanbefore the 15th day of August, 1947, and continues to be so situated xxxxx after the said date;

Section 2(d).

(d) To the existing exceptions a third exception be added to exempt property held in trust for public, charitable and religious purposes.

Section (30)(1)(a).

(a) to the Custodian, where the original order has been passed by a Deputy or an Assistant Custodian;

Section (30)(1)(a).

Appeal to a Custodian against an order passed by a Deputy or Assistan Custodian does not provide any remedy whatsoever against the possible injustice of the executive order, because it is an appeal from one Executive Authority to another Executive Authority, who generally follow the same policy. An appeal should therefore be provided to the District Judge as heretofore or in any event to the High Court in all cases. An appeal to the

District Judge would provide a more accessible and handy forum to the aggrieved person in all parts of a province, than having to go direct to a High Court which is often situated far away from the place of dispute.

SECTION 30(6).

(6) Subject to the foregoing provisions of this section, any order made by the Custodian, Additional Custodian, Authorised Custodian, Deputy Custodian or Assistant Custodian shall be final and shall not be called in question in any Court by way of appeal or revision of in any original suit, application or execution proceedings.

SECTION 30(6).

(6) This clause should be deleted as this is a negation of all civil rights. Custodian is meant to be a constitutional authority and not an arbitrary and disctrial being, whose actions cannot be questioned in competent Courts established by law. When a democratic constitution is being forged for the country, such exemptions form the supervision of Courts of law for such an important officer would amount to a denial of the most elementary rights of the subject.

SECTION 31.

31. Jurisdiction of civil Courts barred in certain matters.-
(1) Save as otherwise expressly provided in the Ordinance, no civil Courts shall have jurisdiction.
(i) to entertain, or adjudicate upon, any question whether any property is or is not evacuee property or whether an evacuee, has or has not any right or interest in any evacuee property;or
(ii) to question the legality of any action taken by the Custodian; or
(iii) in respect of any matter which the Custodian is empowered by or under this Ordinance to determine.

SECTION 31.

31. This Section should be removed for the same reasons as above. It is submitted that Section 32 below is sufficient protection for both the Custodian and the Central Government for any action taken in good faith. Any protection beyond this would give arbitrary and despotic powers to the Custodian which would be repugnant to the democratic spirit and policy of the present Government.

.....

29

30-Queensway,
New Delhi,
4.9.49

My dear Shree Shankarji,

I have no doubt that God would be merciful on us and restore our Sardar to perfect health. My most respectful namaste to him.

I understand that Shree H. J. Khandekar and Shree L. B. Bhatkar have sent a brief report of their impressions of the affairs in Jammu and Kashmir, which they recently visited.

I have no doubt that you will please place that before Sardarji. There are persistent reports of ruthless and cruel behaviour on the part of the authorities on the members and sympathisers of the Praja Parishad, which claims to represent the people of Jammu. They say they are willing to have any test to prove their claim. If so, it is in the interest of all concerned that there should be rapproachment between them and the Govt. of Sheikh Saheb. The duty to make the rapproachment lies on both sides and not on one alone. For our part, we have to see that both Jammu and Kashmir come to us. But, in trying that ~~they come~~, we must also see that at least Jammu (including the separate part of it, i.e. the newly created district of Doda) remains assured.

With Best wishes

Yours sincerely,

Sd. Ghanshyam Singh Gupta

36

Camp: Birla House
Mount Pleasant Road,
Bombay,6.
19th August 1949.

My dear Maitra,

I came to know only after you had left that you had called on me. Otherwise I should have liked to have a few words with you. I am now feeling much better.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra,
M.C.A.
15 Ferozshah Road,
New Delhi.

M

Camp: Birla House,
Mount Pleasant Road,
Bombay 6,
22nd August 1949.

Dear Shri Ram Sahai,

Maniben has handed over your letter to me. Sardar has been improving steadily since he came here andis feeling much better. He hopes to return to Delhi in a fortnight's time.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(V.SHANKAR)

Shri Ram Sahai,
Member,
Constituent Assembly of India,
9, Electric Lane,
New Delhi.

R.

रामसहाय
सदस्य, अखिल भारतवर्षीय कांग्रेस कार्य समिति
सदस्य, विधान परिषद,
अध्यक्ष, मध्यभारत धारासभा

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY
INDIA

आदर्णीय मणी बेन जी

पूज्य सरदार के स्वास्थ्य का समाचार यहाँ बराबर नहीं मिलता है

अगर अवकाश हो तो आप सूचना देने की कृपा करें

ईश्वर से प्रार्थना है कि वह उन्हें शीघ्र स्वस्थ करे

निवेदक
रामसहाय

९ एलिफ्रुकेलन
नई दिल्ली
२० [illegible] ४९

33

5th August 1949.

Dear Mr. Mookerjee,

Thank you for your letter of the 5th August 1949. I know how anxious friends like you are about father's health and am sure that the prayers of you all will be rewarded.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

sd

(Maniben Patel)

Shri H.C.Mookerjee,
Vice-President,
Constituent Assembly of India
16, Windsor Place,N.Delhi.

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16, Windsor Place,
New Delhi.
August 5 1949.

Dear Miss Patel,

I have been keeping myself posted about the present state of health of Sardarji and if I have not called it is only because I have no desire to add to your distractions at a time when there are so many calls on your time and energy.

It is but little that a humble person like me can do to strengthen him in the midst of your trial. I may, however, assure you that the prayers of myself and my wife as also of the Christian Churches in and around Calcutta are being offered at the throne of the Almighty so that He may be pleased to give your father a quick recovery not only for the sake of yourself and the members of your family but also for that of our motherland. We hope that our prayers may be answered by God and that He will grant them so that Sardarji may once more help us all..

With my prayerful regards,

Yours sincerely,

H C Mookerjee

(H.C. Mookerjee)
Vice-President,
C.A. of India.

Miss Maniben Patel,
1, Aurangzeb Road,
New Delhi.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

TEL. ADDRESS:
"LOKASABHA"
टेलीफोन नं.
अहमदाबाद – ७२४६
दिल्ली – ४०३०७
मुंबई – ६०८२८

No.A.1911/49.

"Sevakutir",
16,Maharashtra Society,
Ellis Bridge,
Ahmedabad, the 25th July,1949.

My dear Vallabhbhai,

Yours No.503-PP.M./49 of 21st instant to hand today.

I have also had suggestions and reactions from the the Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

The Delegation, as I have now finally proposed, will consist of the following:-

1. **Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar.**
   (Failing him Shri K.Hanumanthaiya.)
2. **Shri Tajamul Husain.**
3. **Shri Mohanlal Gautam.**
   (Failing him Smt: Durgabai).

Very probably Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar may not go, and the delegation will, therefore, consist of people from three different parts of India, namely, south, east and north.

I had a mind to include Shri Kala Venkata Rao, but Panditji expressed a view that he may not be able to leave because of important Congress work on hand, and particularly because of the enquiry in the affairs of the Madras Ministry of which he was a member. I, therefore, thought that it would not be proper on my part to embarrass Shri Kala Venkata Rao by having to decline an offer coming for the Speaker. I thought it best to reserve him for some other occasion.

It/

CONFIDENTIAL

2

It was a pleasure to have a letter containing a few of your own handwritings. I take it as an index of your improving health. But I hope, it does not imply undue strain.

Jitu has come here three days' back. He was coming by a steamer and arrangements were made for an air journey for him through Scindia's in Bombay. They could contact him at Genoa (or some other port) where the steamer was lying, and it was, therefore, possible that he could come immediately. It has been indeed a very nice thing. We were all doubtful as to whether Dr. Banerjee would be able to have the pleasure of meeting him. The doctor is sinking slowly and slowly. I am dropping at his place almost every day for a few minutes. When one sees long-standing friends and co-workers passing away, one by one, one comes to realise that the world is changed, and one himself must prepare for the end of his journey. The prospect does not frighten me, but I have begun to feel the necessity of a sort of mental preparation.

We are all well and wish you the same.

Please remember us to Mani.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(G. V. Mavalankar)

To/
The Hon'ble
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister of the Govt. of India,
1, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.

D.O. No. 508-DGM/49 36
1 Aurangzeb Road,
New Delhi, 30.7.1949.

My dear Mavalankar

Thank you for your letter No. A. 1949/49 dated the 18th July 1949.

I think we should send a delegation. After all, it is these inter-Parliamentary contacts which have both educative and goodwill value. On the whole, I think a delegation of three with a Secretary would be adequate. I would suggest the following:-

1. Shri. Kala Venkatarao
2. Shrimati Durgabai
3 Shri K. Hanumanthiah
or
4. Shri Mohanlal Gautam.

I have been unable to decide between Hanumanthiah and Gautam. Hanumanthiah would be representing the States, whereas Gautam would be representing Northern India.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. Vallabhbhai Patel.

Shri. G.V. Mavalankar,
"Sevakunj",
16 Maharashtra Society,
Ellis Bridge, AHMEDABAD.

V.

CONFIDENTIAL.

TEL. ADDRESS:
"LOKASABHA"
टेलीफोन नं.
अहमदाबाद - ७२४६
दिल्ली - ४०३०७
मुंबई - ६०६२०

No.A.1840/49.

"Sevakutir",
16,Maharashtra Society,
Ellis Bridge,
Ahmedabad, the 18th July,1949.

Re: Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference at Stockholm.

Dear Vallabhbhai,

Herewith a copy of a letter, which I am writing to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on the question of sending a Delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference to be held at Stockholm from 7th to 12th September,1949.

I have asked my Secretary (Mr. Kaul) to see you and convey to you such information as you may want, and give me such advice as you think proper. You will do all this consistent with your health. In case your health does not permit the consideration of this question, please drop it altogether. The matter is not of such importance that you should be troubled about this.

Please remember us to all.

With/

~~With~~ Best wishes to Maniben.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(G.V.Mavalankar).

To/
The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime-Minister to the
Government of India,
1,Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.

Encl: One.

Confidential. No.A.1839/49.

"Sevakutir",
16,Maharashtra Society,
Ellis Bridge,
Ahmedabad,the 18th July,1949.

Re: Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference at Stockholm.

Dear Panditji,

You remember, last year we sent two Observers "Shri Diwakar and Dr. Keskar" to the Inter-Parliamentary Conference at Rome at the invitation of Lord Stansgate, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Thereafter we have taken steps to form an Inter-Parliamentary Group after having a Resolution of the Assembly for the purpose. The Constitution is adopted, and I am the Chairman. It was my idea to elect the Executive Committee and other office bearers after some members were enrolled. Till now sixty-one members have paid their subscription-fees, while fifty-seven have expressed desire to be members, but have not yet paid their fees. Under the Constitution only those who have paid the fees, are members.

2. The Annual Session of the Conference is to be held this year at Stockholm from 7th to 12th September,1949. It is, therefore, necessary that we should decide :

(1) As to whether we should send representatives at all;
(2) If so, how many; and
(3) which members of the Assembly.

3. The usual procedure is that the matter is considered by the Executive Committee, and then decisions are taken by the President in the light of the views of the Executive Committee. This year, however, the difficulty is that no Executive Committee is yet elected, and a decision has to be taken without delay. I was thinking of having informal consultations with you and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and a few members of the Group and then decide all the above three questions. I find, however, that the Gandhi Samarak Nidhi meetings are now postponed to 14th August, and I am not, therefore, coming to Delhi on the 24th instant, as originally arranged. I shall be coming there on the 14th August and shall stay till the 21st August. The questions relating to the Stockholm Conference have, therefore, to be discussed and settled by correspondence.

4. I had already stated to my Secretary in previous correspondence that I was not in favour of sending a larger number of delegation because of the necessity for economising sterling, and even economy in expenditure. I feel that we must not lose the annual contact with world-parliamentarians, and, therefore, we should send a Delegation, which need not be large. I was thinking of sending three people and the Secretary. Some friends urge on me that the delegation should consist of five and the Secretary. It may appear to be small, but my view is that in a large administration we must insist upon every small economy, as the total of all economies becomes a large sum.

5. I have not yet made up my mind as to the personnel of the Delegation, but I think, I should select people who have not gone out recently in delegations. The Delegation has to be selected from private members, as it does not represent the Government of the country, and the object is to have a free

discussion/

discussion for the private use of members. Inclusion of any Ministers in the Delegation is likely to embarrass both the Delegates as well as the Government.

6. I am thinking of the following:-

1. Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Deputy Speaker, as Leader of the Delegation.
2. Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru.
3. Shri Tajammul Hussain.
4. Dr. Punjab Rao Deshmukh.
5. Seth Govind Das.
6. Shri Mohanlal Gautam.
7. Pandit Mukut Beharilal Bhargava.

We may select any three out of these, or out of such other names as you or friends may have to suggest.

7. As we shall be sending this Delegation year after year, we may send next year any person who would like to go and ought to be sent, but is left out this year.

8. A suggestion is made to me that I should also send such persons as would like to go at their own cost. Prima facie, it does not appeal to me. In the first place, it does not solve the problem of preservation of exchange, and secondly, we ought not to send people merely because they are spending their own.

9. I have troubled you with this long letter as the names have to go by the end of this month. I am directing my Secretary to see you in this connection and give you such information as you want, and let me have your reactions. Such a procedure will give you a better idea of the points involved, and it will save you time of correspondence with me.

10. I am sending a copy of this to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel also, who will be approached by my Secretary for the same purpose and will let me know his reactions.

I am doing well and wish you the same.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mavalankar

(G.V.Mavalankar).

To/
The Hon'ble Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,
Prime-Minister to the Government of India,
NEW DELHI.

4, Hardinge Avenue,
New Delhi, 21st July 1949.

Dear Sardarji,

I am most reluctant to worry you with any representations but in view of the importance of the subject Mr. Srinivasan, the Editor of "The Hindu", has asked me to bring to your notice one matter which deserves serious consideration. In the present list of subjects attached to the Draft Constitution, the press is in the Concurrent List. Mr. Srinivasan and some of the other Editors in Madras feel strongly that it should be only a Central subject. Information, broadcasting, films, censorship etc. are all in the Central List. There is no reason why the press should also not be similarly placed. The fact that an international convention on information is now under discussion in the U.N. General Assembly and will be adopted at the next session furnishes ~~as the~~ an additional argument in favour of the prepesition that the press should be a Central subject. Mr. Srinivasan hopes that you will be pleased to support such a move.

Since I am writing to you, may I bring to your notice another matter? The administration in Hyderabad is called a military Government. It seems to be an unfortunate description capable of being misunderstood abroad. The general impression outside India is that it is more or less martial law in Hyderabad. Actually the only reason for its being called a military Government seems to be that the head of it is Major-General Chaudhuri.

In all other respects it is a civil administration, a caretaker Government, if one may apply the term, but certainly not a military Government.

Another aspect of the problem in Hyderabad which struck me is that the State will require at least a year, if not more, of the present administration before general elections can be held. One cannot afford to take risks in Hyderabad, because if for any reason the administration consisting of popular leaders should breakdown, the repercussions may be extremely serious not only for Hyderabad but also for the rest of India.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

B. Shiva Rao

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister, India,
New Delhi.

[redacted]
7th July 1949.

Dear Prof. Ranga,

Thank you for your letter of 1st July 1949 addressed to Sardarji. I have placed your note before him, and he was much interested to read it.

Yours sincerely,

(V.SHANKAR).

Prof. N.G. Ranga, M.C.A.,
2, Purushotam Road,
NEW DELHI.

V.

PROF. N.G.RANGA.

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2, Panchsheel Road,
New Delhi,
1st July 1950.

My dear Sardarjee,

I am glad to say that I have been able to do a considerable amount of spade work in preparing the mind of responsible leaders of America - both official and non-official - in favour of extending financial and other assistance to India and other un-developed countries in pursuance of Point IV of President Truman's inauguration speech.

I am enclosing a copy of the Note I have sent to Panditjee. Let your Secretary peruse this and convey to you the points.

I am fondly hoping that your health is improving.

Yours affectionately,

N.G.Ranga

Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister, Govt. of India,
Camp: DEHRA DUN,
U.P.

PROF.N.G.RANGA.
President: All India Kisan Congress.

2, Ferozshah Road,
New Delhi.
1st July 1949.

Dear Sir,

I am glad to say that I have been able to do a considerable amount of spade work in preparing the mind of responsible leaders of America - both official and non-official - in favour of extending financial and other assistance to India and other un-developed countries in pursuance of Point IV of President Truman's inauguration speech. In this connection, I have seen during my recent visit to Canada and America, the leaders of American and Canadian Farm Organisations, American Federation of Labour and also Messrs. Webb, the acting Secretary of State, Brannan, the Secretary for Agriculture and his chief secretary MacKinley, Mathews and Sparks of the Asiatic Affairs in the State Department, Martin, Asst. Secretary of Treasury Department and Ex-President of Export and Import Bank and Ex-President of New York Stock Exchange, Hayes of the Point IV programme, Tarano, Secretary to Mr. Hoffman of the ERP and several others, besides interviewing President Truman and Presidents of House Committees on ERP and Agriculture. All these visits and interviews were sponsored by the National Farmers Union of USA of which Mr. James G. Patton is the President and who is a great friend of President Truman. They have introduced me to these officials as a non-official peasant leader of India.

Ofcourse I had the blessings and support of our Embassy. But as you know, a non-official, representing a private Indian mass organisation being sponsored by a private mass organisation of America conveys a special significance to American officials and non-officials. They knew that I had no official authority from our Government. Moreover I took care to warn them that I was speaking only as a non-official and in my capacity as President of All India Kisan Congress and not in any other capacity.

Point IV comprehends only two aspects of assistance from America to under-developed countries.

(a) The offer of "KNOW HOW", that is, sending a large number of experts to study the possibilities of agricultural and indus-

trial development and prepare schemes in any country and bear part or whole cost thereof and then induce the country concerned to undertake those projects as far as possible with their local resources with men, money and materials;

(b) That negotiate certain guarantees as between American Government and that of any of the un-developed countries in order to ensure the safety of American personnel and their investments in the concerned undeveloped countries against any fear of confiscation or physical injury and also the transfer of the interest earned on such American investments to America in terms of dollars. American Government wishes to obtain the sanction of the Congress for giving such guarantees to American businessmen in order that they may feel encouraged to export their capital and capital goods to undeveloped countries with the confidence that if at any time their investments were to be confiscated, the borrowing country being unable to find dollar exchange for the transference of their profits to America, the USA might be able to pay full compensation or to provide the necessary dollar exchange if and when necessary.

I am glad to say that all the officials I have seen expressed satisfaction that my talks with them would help in quickening their work in these two directions and especially for the benefit of India. They are also hoping that with the preparatory work that my friends of the Farmers Unions and Labour Organisations are likely to carry on in the light of my talks, it might become easier for them to take the fullest advantage of our Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru's visit to America and persuade their Congress during the next February-April to sanction the whole of their scheme and also necessary funds as first instalment.

But Point IV programmes does not so far contemplate the negotiation of Government to Government loans for the development of irrigation and flood control and rural electrical schemes and also industrial developmental projects such as the contemplated Iron and Steel works, ship-building yards, refineries, news print and tractor manufacturing concerns. I am glad to say, however, that Truman, Brannan and the Commerce Secretary, Mr. Martin and others have recognised the urgency of our need for the development

of these projects also. Therefore they have all offered to do their best to see that the International Bank would give us a series of loans whenever needed and they assured me that to start with, we would be likely to get 100 to 150 million dollars immediately.

When I drew their attention to the possible inability of the International Bank to lend to us all the capital we need within the next 2-3 years in order to inaugurate schemes and that American private capital might not be able to advance necessary credit to that Bank especially as the Bank would have to answer similar calls from so many other undeveloped countries, they recognised the weight of my fear. Then they began to explore the other possibilities. They considered with some favour the possibility of American Export and Import Bank advancing to us considerable sums on short term basis while our negotiations for a series of loans from the International Bank go on fructifying so that over a period of years, we can proceed with our construction work with the short-term loans advanced by Export and Import Banks which we would be able to liquidate with long term loans that we would be getting from International Bank. This, they said, might become possible without having to go to Congress for special legislation.

Mr. Martin has also contemplated the possibility of getting long term loans from Import and Export Bank as was done soon after the war was over. But that might need special legislation.

Messrs. Truman, Brannan and others have come to realise the inevitability of Government to Government transactions for the development of at least our agricultural projects. But Mr. Webb, the Acting Secretary of State and the State Department are not so enthusiastic since they feel that it might largely depend upon the kind of agreement we reach with their Government. Mr. Truman feared that their private capital might not be willing to advance money for these projects. I assured him that although the returns from them could never be too high, it would always be safe and stable since our irrigation fees are collected as part of our tax. He realised that somehow his Government should find a way to help us in this direction and wanted me to meet Mr. Martin and others and discuss these matters and requested Mr. Russel Smith, the Deputy

Chief of the National Farmers' Union who accompanied me, to do the necessary propaganda. Mr. Martin also favoured this idea.

Mr. Hayes and Tarano suggested that in connection with Panditjee's forthcoming visit, some experts of government of India should go over to America either before or during this visit and negotiate with the concerned authorities over such loans, just as the French and English had done before their loans were given, taking full advantage of the special atmosphere that is likely to be created due to Panditjee's visit.

Mr. Webb and State Department officials are however more keen on our inducing private capital of America to go over to India and to negotiate with our capital and our Government as the case may be, for the development of specific industrial projects, each case depending on its own merits. They felt that if we insisted upon certain general conditions such as the limitation of profits to 6%, the inclusion of Indian capital (whether private or public) upto 51% and other conditions regarding Directors etc, American capital might not be so enthusiastic even though left to itself it might come to agree to all these or most of these conditions. I thought their attitude was rather conservative especially in the light of the enthusiasm displayed by President Truman and Mr. Brannan to help us in order to enable us to stand on our own feet as against the daily growing Communist menace.

I should also state that one or two important people questioned the sagacity of India in going to International Bank for a loan before first of all exhausting all possibilities for raising loans from American Government and from American capital. They felt that the International Bank would be likely to impose a condition for giving loans that India should not borrow from anyone else without its permission and such a condition would seriously thwart the industrial progress of India because the capacity of International Bank to raise capital in open markets might not be unlimited. But when I mooted this possibility of International Bank imposing such an untenable condition, Mr. Truman and Martin said that they did not think International Bank would ever impose such a condition and they assured me that they would see

such a condition would not be imposed. Anyhow Mr. Tarano who is one of their Brain-Trust, said that we should not accept it if at all it comes to be imposed.

I should say that I have gathered the impression that the American attitude towards our country and our proposals for loans is extremely fluid and is daily changing in the light of the growing Communist menace. They all seem to be very anxious and keen on building up India as a bulwark against Communist expansion and preventing us from falling a prey to it just as China has done. I am hoping that our Prime Minister's visit would revolutionise the American attitude towards India's needs for capital and capital goods and might result in persuading the American Congress to accept the President's proposal for our agricultural and industrial development.

I am encouraged to express the above sentiment of optimism in the light of my experience of the rapid development of American attitude during the last 3 years. In 1946, Mr. Willcocks, one of their economic experts attached to the Eastern Command said to me in Delhi that American capital could come into India only on its own conditions and its freedom should not be fettered. Another Mr. Willcocks, the acting leader of American Delegation to the International Trade Conference held at Geneva in 1947 said to me that American capital which had 50 to 20 billion dollars to spare every year would be willing to go into partnership with Indian capital; but not with our Government and wanted to make sure of our political security. He was not even prepared to consider when I suggested the possibility of Government to Government transactions. But you could see from what I have said above, how greatly the attitude of American capital has changed since then. The main reasons are the advance of Communist control over China; the realisation by American Government especially by President Truman and his supporters, the Farm Organisation and American Federation of Labour of the need to protect India and other countries in South East Asia from Communist mischief. They have therefore developed the new formula of guarantees to be given by their Government to their capitalists in order to safeguard them against such risks

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as the confiscation of their oil wells etc, in Mexico.

THE HISTORY OF THE INTEREST OF THE ALL INDIA KISAN CONGRESS IN THIS MOVE:

The moment the Marshall Plan was announced, the All India Kisan Congress felt that every effort should be made to get it extended to undeveloped areas also. Therefore our Indian Delegation to the Conference of International Federation of Agricultural Producers held at the Hague in 1947 canvassed for support among the farmers' leaders of America for such an extension. But they said they would be quite ready to take up our cause provided the representatives of other undeveloped countries both in Asia and Europe were willing to ask for it. Then the representatives from India, Burma, China, Hungary and Austria met and drafted a memorandum. But unfortunately due to the influence of Communists among the Austrian and Hungarian delegations, it could not be finally adopted by us. Then I took up this matter with Mr. Willcocks at Geneva. But as I said before, the USA attitude at that time was rather too conservative.

At the last year's session of IFAP at Paris, Mr. Naidu, our chief delegate openly asked for the extension of Marshall Aid to India and Eastern countries in his statement on behalf of our delegation. The American delegates as well as others expressed their agreement with our stand on that occasion. Fortunately Pandit Nehru, our Prime Minister also suggested in his speech at ECAFE in Ooty, that India would appreciate if American capital would come to India to develop our industries. But the reply given by Mr. Grady, the then U.S. Ambassador in India was very discouraging. Therefore when I went to America in 1948 June-July to attend ILO Conference, I took the opportunity of discussing the matter with their labour leaders especially of American Federation of Labour and canvassing for their support for our appeal to American capital for the development of our projects. As my challenge to the Communist delegates from Italy and Czechoslovakia etc, has effectively embarassed them at the Frisco ILO Conference, the leaders of AFL began to display special interest in my stand

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regarding the Marshall Plan. In my press conference at San Francisco, I tried to answer Mr. Grady's objection and laid stress upon America's duty. Therefore, before I left America both the American Federation of Labour and the four great farmers' organisations of America had promised to do their best to press for a change in their governmental policy regarding the development of undeveloped areas. I am glad to say that it was these two organisations and also the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Coloured Peoples) with which also our All India Kisan Congress as well as myself have established fraternal contacts, were very largely responsible for Mr. Truman's success at the last elections. Mr. Truman was persuaded by them all to incorporate this Point IV. No doubt the pressure of the fear of growing economic depression and the need for American capital to flow abroad, had its own influence.

Before I left for Canada this time for the Fourth Conference of IFAP, Mr. James G. Patton, President of the National Farmers' Union has written to me to say that he has already discussed twice about this matter with special reference to India with President Truman and his chief advisers, that he would go over to India and meet our Prime Minister and thus pave the way for the early flow of American capital and personnel into India. When I reached the Conference, both James G. Patton and Mr.Kline of Farm Bureau suggested that I should reinforce their efforts by seeing Mr. Truman and others and they offered to arrange the interview. Our Embassy has cooperated with us wholeheartedly with the result I was able to have my talks with them and communicate to you this gist of the results of the conversations.

Ever since our Government has been obliged to stop further expansion of the development of agricultural projects because of its scare of inflation, I have been very much worried because without developing the 12 or more such great projects as Ramapadsagar, Kosi, Sangameswar, Narbada, Tapati, Ganga and Brahmaputra and the associated Hydro-electric schemes, it would not be possible for us to kindle the hopes in the hearts of millions of our peasants, to insure our crops against the vicissitudes

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of seasons and to make India self-sufficient in food and save foreign exchange and finally develop rural industries and retain the loyalty of our kisans despite the Communist challenge. Therefore I have begun to feel that unless we manage somehow to induce American capital and public to lend to us all the capital etc, that are needed for the development of the schemes, the Swaraj that we have won is likely to turn into dust within the very first 2 decades.

Moreover Indian capital has been non-cooperating with us in the most unpatriotic manner. Its hoarded money would not come out. Most of the post-war development projects are not taken up by itself or by our Government. It has been pursuing a 'dog in the manger' policy in complaining against Government policy regarding nationalisation while itself not developing any project on its own initiative or subscribing for government's developmental loans. Therefore I am convinced that one of the ways by which it can be induced to bring out its hoarded wealth and invest it in various projects is by placing it in competition with American capital. Moreover in view of the Prime Minister's statement on the conditions subject to which foreign capital would be welcome, I feel convinced that to place Indian capital in competition with American capital would be in our national interest.

Yours sincerely,

(N.G. RANGA.)

The Hon'ble Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,
Prime Minister, Government of India,
Prime Minister's House, New Delhi.

Copy to:

The Hon'ble Dr. John Mathai,
Minister for Finance, Government of India,
New Delhi.

M.Ananthasayanam Iyyangar, M.C.A.,
Camp: Vijayavada. Dated: 3.7.1949.

My Dear Sardarji,

Herewith I have enclosed a memorandum signed by 40 members of the Madras Congress Legislature Party requesting the Congress Parliamentary Board to interfere in the matter of the formation of the Ministry at Madras, so as to form a composite Ministry as you did in East Punjab.

The Ministry is packed with men belonging to the NADAR and PATTABHI Groups. Similar groupings have led to the changes in Leadership every year and are responsible for inefficiency and corruption - in the administration.

You may kindly remember that when I spoke to you during the Assembly Sessions, and requested you to interfere in the Madras Ministerial Affairs, and settle the matters, as the President - Dr.Pattabhi Sitaramaiah and Secretary Sri Kala Venkatarao, are not able to shed themselves of group affiliations, you said at that there was no request to the Parliamentary Board by any - member of the Madras Legislature to interfere.

The members of the Legislature have now sent you a memorandum and I request you and the Parliamentary Board to take up the matter immediately and set things right by reconstituting the Ministry, eliminating those against whom there are serious charges, and taking in good men, representing all the groups. This alone will ensure stability of the Government, improve its stone and bring back the prestige of the Congress. Otherwise the situation here will deteriorate still further.

Copies of the memorandum have been sent to the other members of the Parliamentary Board.

WITH KIND REGARDS,

YOURS SINCERELY,

(M.Ananthasayanam Iyyangar).

To
Hon. Sirdar Vallabhbhai Pateljee,
Member, Congress Parliamentary Board,
Circuit House,
DEHRA-DUN.

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MADRAS.

18th June, 1949.

To

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhai Patel,

Member, Congress Parliamentary Board,

NEW DELHI.

Respected Sir,

We the undersigned members of the Madras Congress Legislature Party desire to bring to your kind notice the very serious and unfortunate situation that has resulted by reason of the one sided Constitution of the present Congress ministry in Madras.

2. You might be aware of the events in connection with the election of Mr. Kumaraswamy Raja as leader of the Congress Party in March last. Some time prior to the election it was found by the majority of the members that Mr. Omandur the previous leader was unacceptable as by reason of the policies of himself & of his ministry ....the administration had become very unpopular. It was Mr. Kamaraj Nadar, the President of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee that took the lead in throwing out Mr. Omandur and for the new leadership he ...approached Dr. Subbarayoyan and gave him every encouragement to stand for it. He canvassed also for the support of what are usually called the Prakasam and Vaidyanatha Ayyar sections, Mr. Nadar was confident that with his own following consisting of about twenty five members with the support of others mentioned above he could make the ...position for Mr. Omandur so difficult that he would not contest at all. He further stipulated that he would support Dr. Subbaroyan for the ..leadership provided Mr. Prakasam would not stand for the leadership and would agree to support Dr. Subbaroyan in which case alone he would ...be able to bring about an uncontested election. This was the position under which Dr. Subbaroyan was made to stand for the election and support for him was canvassed by Mr. Nadar till about a week before the date of election.

3. Then Mr. Nadar changed his tactics all atonce, let down Dr. Subbaroyan and put forward Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, minister for Public Works, though it was known to many that he was not willing to stand for leadership if it was not to be uncontested. When there were barely twenty four hours for the election Mr. Nadar laid aside

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~~aside~~ Mr. Bhaktavatsalam also and put forward Mr. Kumaraswamy Raja as his candidate, eventhough we are told that by reason of his bad health, Mr. Raja ~~told that by reason of his bad health, Mr. Raja~~ never wanted to contest for the leadership.

4. Anyway at the time of the election as you might be aware Mr. Raja got 105 votes as against Dr. Subbaroyan who got 90 votes. As soon as the result of the election was announced, Mr. Raja ~~announced~~ made a statement to the Party that even though he had won by a majority he would Constitute a composite ministry. This statement of his ~~(copy enclosed)~~ was accalimed with great relief by the party and the press and the people of the Province who were sick of the previous Ministry ~~as~~ many of the faults of which were ~~done~~ due to the fact that it was constituted on the basis of only the winning elements. Mr. Nadar on behalf of Mr. Kumaraswamy Raja immediately got into touch with Dr. Subbaroyan, and after a series of meetings they agreed for the constitution of a composite ministry of seven including the Premier from the Raja's group and five from Dr. Subbaroyan's group if the total strength of the ministry was to be 12, or 8 and 6 respectively if the total was to be 14. Mr. Nadar having come to this agreement announced this to the press late at night previous to his departure to Delhi, Mr. Raja having left earlier. ~~(Press cuttings of this are enclosed)~~.

5. We regret to note that some material change took place at Delhi after Mr. Nadar went over there. We are informed that this was the result of his talks with Sri Kala Venkata Rao and Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya. Several influences seemed to have worked at Delhi,, wholly giving the go-by to Mr. Nadar's previous agreement with Dr.Subbaroyan.

6. The net result of it all was that when Mr. Raja returned to Madras he announced a ministry, including himself, of 10 persons. The personnel of it were Sri. Gopalareddy, Chandramouli, Sitaramareddy and Sanjeevareddy, all four Andhra members of what is called the Pattabhi section consisting of about 36 persons. The other five were Sri Bhaktavatsalam, Parameswaran, Dr. Rajan, Madhava Menon and A.B.Shetty. All the ten were the supporters of Sri Raja at the election.

7. Mr. Nadar after his return from Delhi once again began to negotiate with Dr. Subbaroyan. He had given up his former agreement and after protracted negotiations ultimately agreed to include only two members of Dr. Subbaroyan's section, viz., Dr. Subbaroyan himself and Sri T. Viswanatham and no more. This was naturally declined. The ministry now consists of twelve members two more having been since appointed viz., Sri C. Perumalswamy Reddiar and Roche Victoria.

8. All these negotiations going back on previous promises, and the constitution of the ministry with its present personnel has led to demoralisation in the ranks of the Congress and the press has naturally reacted against the Ministers. Most of the members of the old ministry who brought unpopularity to the Omandur ministry and helped its downfall are again in the new ministry by virtue of their belonging to either the Pattabhi or the Nadar section. The Ministry as a whole commands little respect with the public and the people of the province. Its recent measures particularly measures of taxation brought before the Legislative Assembly during this week without any previous consultation with the Party and which will make the Congress most unpopular with almost every class of the public have been denounced by the bulk of the members of the Party on the floor of the Legislature and by the public and the Press all round. One of the measures viz., tax on press advertisements followed by a speech of the Premier attacking the Press ~~(cutting enclosed)~~ has driven the entire press of the province to an attitude hostile to the Ministry and its administration, ~~(cuttings enclosed)~~.

9. We feel it our duty to apprise you of the grave situation which is thus developing in the province as a result of all these happenings. We look up to you and other members of the Parliamentary Board to save the Province and its people which can be done only by the reconstitution of the ministry on a composite basis as was done in the West Punjab, taking only men of ability and character into it and not all and sundry to please particular groups or interests. There is no reason why a different rule should be followed in this Province. And unless this is done forthwith, further deterioration and disaster in

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the Province are inevitable.

10. We learn that when the negotiations for a composite Ministry ultimately broke off last month, Mr. T. Prakasam gave ...Mr. Raja a note on this matter which the latter gave to the Congress President to be placed before the Parliamentary Board, but that it has not been so placed even though he told the Press he would do so. Hence also this request of ours.

39 [signature]

Yours sincerely,

1. G. Venkata Rao
2. T. Viswana Rao
3. N. Govinda Swamy
4. S. Gurunath
5. [signature]
6. [signature]
7. K. Linga Reddy
8. [signature]
9. G. Lakshmana
10. K. R. Karanth
11. [signature]
12. [signature]
13. [signature]
14. S. Nagaiah
15. [signature]
16. V. Raghaviah
17. Rukmini Lakshmipathi
18. R. Raghavamma
19. A. Kaleswara Rao
20. D. Kondiswara Rao

21. [signature]
22. R.V. M. G. Ramarao, The Yuvarajah of Pithapuram
23. [signature]
24. [signature]
25. D.S. Ramachandra Rao
26. Raja Gunnar
27. [signature]
28. V.C. Palanitha
29. M. Nadimuthu
30. M.P. Periyaswamy
31. [signature]
32. N. Sankara Reddy
33. S. Nagaraja Maniga
34. [signature]
35. [signature]
36. R.V. Ennatakeswari
37. B. Bangaramma
38. N.S. Varadachari
40. B. Venkatesh

Kranti Kunj,
Civil Lines
Nagpur
July 3, 1949.

My dear Sardarji, Would you consider me presumptuous if I felicitate you on your choice of Shri R.K. Patil as Commissioner for Food Production? The appointment has been well received here, and, I am sure, will be so

everywhere else.

Don't you agree, Sardarji, that "Commissioner-General" would be a more appropriate designation for the incumbent of the new office? I have made this suggestion to Panditji as well in a separate letter.

I hope you are in good health and cheer by the grace of God.

Sincerely yours

H. K. Kamath

5T
2. Ferozshah Rd
New Delhi
25-6-49.

My dear Sardarjee

I wish to send my Pranams to you and do please accept my gratitude for your good wishes on the eve of my departure to Canada.

I am a little upset by what Panditjee told me just now about your health not being at its best. I do sincerely pray for your sound health and full strength.

Our Country needs you

So much. I can assure you that every important person I met in U.S.A, U.K and Canada has expressed great appreciation of the splendid work you have done to stabilise our country and also his anxiety that you should be spared to us for many years to come. I felt very proud to hear them express such appreciation.

I have given a brief resume of my talks with the American President and other important people in their Capital to Panditjee. I hope to send him a short note too. If I can't meet Dr Nathai, I hope to send a note to him also.

With love

Ranjee

Tel.No.7973.

The All-India Anglo-
Indian Association,
Hindustan Times Building,
Connaught Circus,
NEW DELHI.

Frank Anthony, Esq.,
M.C.A.,
B.A., Barrister-at-Law.

18th June, 1949.

My dear Sardar Patel,

Many thanks for your letter of the 14th instant.

You will have read, in the newspapers, that the provisions, I referred to, have been passed without any amendment. I am most grateful to you for your continuing kindness and assistance.

I do hope you are keeping well and that your stay at Dehra Dun is a pleasant one.

With my renewed thanks and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
Frank Anthony
(Frank Anthony)

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai J. Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister of India,
Minister in charge of Home Affairs and States,
Camp: Doon Court,
DEHRA DUN.

FRA/ON.

59

13 B. Ferozshah Road
New Delhi
17-6-49

Dear Mr Shankar,

With reference to your letter of 3-5-49 with regard to a letter alleged to have been sent by me to Hon'ble Sardar Patel on 8-2-49 I am to inform you that I did not send any letter to Sardarji and moreover I am quite ignorant about the contents of the letter. The letter contained in question form certain charges levelled against the Congress President Assam P.C.C and some Ministers of Assam and U.P. It was nothing but a forged letter addressed to Sardarji, because I was attending the C.A. (Legislative) session here at Delhi on 8-2-49 and how it was possible for me to write a letter from Shillong on that date. From anybody can question the authenticity of that letter. I came to learn all about in the month of March 49 from Mr Kamath M.C.A when he received a copy of that letter. He was rather stranged to see me in the Assembly Hall and a letter in my name from Shillong. Some wrongdoers might have thought that I had left for Shillong to attend sessions there and sent the copy to Mr Kamath with a motive that Mr Kamath would surely put the questions before the floor of the House on receipt of that letter in my name. I apprehend also that those who fought for Purvachal separate Province (whom I opposed) might have forged the letter and sent, mentioning to Sardar to create some prejudices in his mind against me & my conduct

Considering all this I met personally Sardarji in the Assembly Hall in the month of March 49 to clarify my position. I am rather happy that I could convince him that the letter was not written or sent by me and he was satisfied with my explanation. I believe that I have nothing more to explain my conduct.

Yours sincerely,

N. C. Laskar,
M.L.A (Assam)
N.C.A.

To

V. Shankar Esq I.C.S.
Pt Secy to Hon'ble Dy Prime Minister
New Delhi

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Camp: Dehra Dun,
6th June 1948.

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your letter of the 2nd June 1948 and the photographs which you so kindly sent me.

Your photographic skill has come to me as a matter of welcome surprise.

I am having plenty of rest in Dehra Dun, though my mind is still with you all in your deliberations of momentous questions.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Nasiruddin Ahmad,
Member,
Constituent Assembly of India,
21-B, Western Court,
New Delhi.

R.

NAZIRUDDIN AHMAD
MEMBER, INDIAN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY (WEST BENGAL).
SENIOR ADVOCATE,
FEDERAL COURT OF INDIA,
BURDWAN.
MEMBER, STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYS.
MEMBER, CENTRAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RAILWAYS.

PHONE: DELHI 40435.

21-B, WESTERN COURT,
NEW DELHI.

The 3rd June, 1949.

Dear Sardarji,

I am enclosing herewith a few enlargements of some snaps I was fortunate enough to take at the Party given to you at the Council House Lawn on the afternoon of the 7th April last to express public thanksgiving on your providential escape the 'Plane accident at Jaipur. I hope they will serve to remind you of the occasion..

I am well. I hope you are enjoying your well-earned rest and recouping health for the strenuous

strenuous exertions for your service. I hope God will spare you for many a long years for the service of your motherland.

With best regards, Yours sincerely,

Encls:
5 enclosures

Nazimuddin Ahmed

The Honourable
Dr. Sardar Vallabhbhai J. Patel
Camp Dehra Dun.

Camp: Dun Court,
Dehra Dun, 4.6.49.

My dear Das,

Thank you for your letter of the 3rd June 1949.

I myself feel unhappy that I have to be away from Delhi when such momentous decisions are being taken, but then my health and the Doctor's advice were decisive.

We have already been thinking of dispersing some of our offices. You can get in touch with Gadgil, who will tell you what the present position is.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sri. B. Das, M.C.A.,
19 Windsor Place,
NEW DELHI.

V.

19 Windsor Place
New Delhi
3.26.49

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My dear Vallabhbhaiji,

I pray that you are having rest & peace there so that you come back to us refreshed.

We miss you here. We could not know your mind if you like the changes in the Constitution Act such as nominated Governors or that State Assemblies to determine the procedure of election to the upper houses.

Your health & your rest is far more important to

to the Nation.

I enclose copy of letter I have written to the Premier. I hope you will give a thought to it so that we utilise these State buildings for the use of Govt of India Offices.

With my warm, warm respects

Yours Sincerely
B. L. Das

The Hon'ble
Sardar Vallabhbhai J Patel
Dy Premier of India
Dehra-Dun

Copy for the Hon'ble
Sardar Vallabhbhai J. Patel
Dy Premier, India.
3.6.49

V86
4-6

19, Windsor Place,
New Delhi,
Dated the 3rd June, 1949.

D.O.No: 289

My dear Panditji,

Re. Transfer of Government Offices outside Delhi.

With the merger of Bhopal State the process of integration of the States to India is almost complete. It is high time that you and Sardar Patel examine which of the State capitals can accommodate various attached offices of Govt. of India without further investment of capital in building and construction work. I have given thought to this problem for sometime and even added a para to my note on the reports of the Economy Committee. Baroda Govt. can spare lots of accommodation for location of one or two offices. I consider Gwalior, Bhopal, Hyderabad and Jodhpur have similar spare accommodations to a considerable extent.

If I be permitted to make concrete suggestions I suggest that the Department of Archaeology can be shifted either to Gwalior or Baroda. The R.I.A.F. Headquarters can be shifted to Jodhpur and I have already suggested in my note that the Naval Headquarters can be transferred either to Vizagapatam or a West India Port not necessarily Bombay.

Unless your personal attention is given at this very early stage to this issue, most of the accommodations - Palaces and other spare buildings - now available in the States will be

.... utilized for

utilised for local requirements whereas the Centre will have to spend huge amount of money in building new cities and quarters for staff to accommodate the over-growing development staff of the Government. Sjt. Gadgil has already announced transfer of the CWINC, C.S.C. and the Govt. of India Press to Nasik. It may be worthwhile to examine if spare residences in Jodhpur or Bhopal or Gwalior cannot be utilized for those purposes. An immediate survey is necessary about accommodation available in the various capital towns of the integrated States and the same must be utilised with an economic objective. If followed up it will save crores of money and will immediately remove the over-congestion at Delhi.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon'ble Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,
Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.

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PERSONAL AND STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

Dr. Raghu Vira, M.C.A.,
30, Queensway,
New Delhi.

June 2, 1949.

Respected Sardar Saheb,

"The startling news has been received from Jammu that a secret wireless transmitter kept for sending out news to Pakistan, as well as a lot of correspondence with Pakistan regarding the activities of the Muslim Officers of the State in connection with the accession of the Jammu and Kashmir State to Pakistan, has been recovered by the Indian Military from the residence of Col: Pir Mohammad, the right hand man of Sheik Mohmmad Abdullah and Education Minister in his Interim Cabinet. Similar incriminating articles have been recovered from the houses of other relatives of this Minister.

It may be mentioned that the brother of this Col: Pir Mohmmad is Senior Superintendent of Police in Kashmir while another brother holds an administrative post in Poonch at present. Also, only recently, the Editor of 'Khidmat', the official organ of the National Conference, had left for Pakistan, with five other leading workers of the National Conference with important documents.

MILITIA OF SHEIK ABDULLAH JOINS PAKISTAN.

It is learnt from reliable source that about three hundred Muslims soldiers of the National Militia recruited in Kashmir by Sh: Abdullah and equipped with modern weapons supplied by the Indian Union, crossed over to Pakistan with Arms and Ammunitions. It may be mentioned that this is not the first occasion when the Muslim troops of the State have joined the enemy.

(Please turn over.)

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VK/46

(Sheet No.2)

MORE HINDU OFFICERS ARRESTED:

Abdullah's Government which has already put several respectable Hindus including Jammu M.L.As., in Jail since several months has recently arrested more respectable Kashmiri Pandits including Pandit Shamboo Nath Vanchoo, Assistant Home Secretary, Pandit Ishar Lal Trisal, Inspector of Customs, Pandit Bishamber nath Nehru, Ex-President, Sri Nagar Municipality and Pandit Sri Kanth, Banker. These arrests have been made under the safety Ordinance for the treasonable crime of demanding one fourth share of produce of their lands from their Muslim tenants. "

There are many more news of such nature coming daily from Jammu and Kashmir. I wish that our secret service in Jammu and Kashmir State should be strengthened fully so that the informations reach you in time before it is too late. I strongly suspect that Sheik Abdullah is involved in one way or the other and some day hand has to be laid on him.

With deepest regards,

Yours sincerely,

24/12

Hon'ble Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister of India,
Dehradun.

Camp: Dun Court,
Dehra Dun, 31.5.1949.

My dear Tyagiji,

Thank you for your letter of the 28th May 1949, with which you sent an application from Sm. Sita Devi, mother of Hari Chand, a prisoner in Delhi Jail.

The difficulty in such cases is that we are yet to receive the Judicial Records from Pakistan. In the absence of those Judicial Records, it is very difficult to come to any conclusion, because we have different kinds of prisoners--some who have committed heinous offences and others who appear to be entitled to some consideration. However, we have now started making enquiries of the prisoners themselves, and we will see whether, as a result of those enquiries, anything can be done in this particular case.

Yours sincerely,

(V.SHANKAR).

Shri. Mahavir Tyagi,
Member, Constituent Assembly,
Rain Basera, DEHRA DUN.

V.

Rain Basera
Dehradun
28/5/49

लैजिस्लेटिव असेम्बली

युक्त प्रांत

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M(?) ... like

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My dear Shanker,

This a mercy petition from the uncle of one Hari Chand who was convicted under sec. 402 for life Imprisonment in Pakistan. He is now in Delhi Jail. As his mother is a refugee here, I strongly appeal to the merciful heart of Sardar Saheb that he may be released.

Yours sincerely
महावीर त्यागी

पा० एस० यू० पी० — ६३ एल० ए० — १९४८ — ८०० किताबें

Shri V. Shanker I.C.S
Pte Secy. to Hon. Home Minister.

To

The Home Minister,

Government of India,

N E W - D E L H I.

Respected Sir,

With due respect & humble submission I beg to draw your kind attention to the following facts for your kind and favourable consideration :-

1. That Sh. Sita Devi mother of Hari Chand prisoner is a poor refugee along with her daughter-in-law from Hazara District (N. W.F.P.) and are residing at Taran-Taran, District Amritsar.

2. That my sister's son Hari Chand s/o Gobind Sahai of V. Tarbela, Tehsil Haripur, District Hazara, N.W.F.P. was on account of enmity involved in a murder case at Abbottabad and was sentenced to be hanged up. On his appeal in High Court he was sentenced to imprisonment for whole life.

3. On the exchange of prisoners with Pakistan Government he was brought to Ferozpore Jail along with other prisoners and at present he is in Tihar Jail Delhi. The address is given below.

4. The mother of the above-named prisoner is an old lady about 75 years. The prisoner had a son, who has also died after imprisonment of his father. There is no male member to support and look after them in the family and they are in a great trouble having no source of income. They are penniless at present as they have left behind all their moveable & immoveable property on account of communal disturbances and are passing their days with very difficulty in Gurdwara at Taran-Taran.

5. Moreover some of the prisoners have been acquitted by the Government after exchange and hence I request your honour to kindly acquit the above-noted prisoner to enable him to earn his livelihood for the support of his mother and wife, as he is a deserving person.

I shall ever remain grateful for the above favour.

A copy has previously been handed to Shri Mohan Lall Saxina, Rehabilitation Minister on 22.5.49.

Yours faithfully,

Dated. 24.8.49.

Ram Chand House No: 21, Dhamawala,
DEHRA-DUN.

Camp: Doom Court,
Dehra Dun,
14th May 1949.

My dear Satyanarayan Babu,

I am sending herewith a copy of my letter to Frank Anthony. This refers to articles 293, 295, 297 and 298 of the Draft Constitution. Please do the needful.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable
Shri Satyanarayan Sinha,
[redacted] of State for
Parliamentary Affairs,
New Delhi.

N

71

Camp Deem Court,
[illegible]
[illegible] June [illegible]

My dear Anthony,

Thank you for your letter of the 11th June and telegram of the 14th.

2. I have had a talk with the Prime Minister and you can rest assured that no change will be made in the provisions which have already been agreed to.

3. As regards Mysore, the question will come up for consideration when we consider what provision should be applied to the States and in what manner.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Anthony, Esq.,
M.C.A., Bar-at-Law,

The All India Anglo-Indian Association,
Hindustan Times Building,
Connaught Circus,
NEW DELHI.

M

72

30

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

B. Class / Prefix } X Code LF

No. 1

Recd. at ___ H. ___ M. | Sent at ___ H. ___ M.

From LE ND | To

By 11/bos | By

DEHRADUN TEL. 14 JUN 49

Office of Origin	Date	Service Instructions	Words
New delhi	14		54

TO

Sardar Patel deputy Premier minister of ~~Doon House~~ india Doon House Dehradun =

articles 297 and 298 Being considered at party meeting this evening stop earnestly Request your intervention to prevent curtailment stop also

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, should be written after, but separated from, the text.

MGIPPAL.—739—26-8-48—3,37,700 Bks.

73

2

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

B. Class / Prefix } ___ Code

No.

Recd. at ___ H. ___ M. | Sent at ___ H. ___ M.

From | To

By | By

DEHRADUN TEL. 14 JUN 49

Office of Origin	Date	Service Instructions	Words

TO

also

earnestly Request adoption of my amendment to ~~article~~ article 298 to include any one state stop explanatory letter sent eleventh thanks =

Frank anthony

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, should be written after, but separated from, the text.

MGIPPAL.—739—26-8-48—3,37,700 Bks.

74

Tel.No.7973.

Frank Anthony, Esq.,
M.C.A.,
B.A., Barrister-at-Law.

The All-India Anglo-Indian
Association,
Hindustan Times Building,
Connaught Circus,
NEW DELHI.

11th June, 1949.

My dear Sardar Patel,

I am sorry to have to bother you: but you have been so helpful and kind, so far, with regard to the provisions relating to Anglo-Indians that I feel certain you will not refuse to assist me at this final stage in the Constitution making.

You may remember, although not in detail, that certain provisions relating to my Community were accepted by the Advisory Committee, passed by the Congress Party and adopted in the Draft Constitution. Unfortunately, several amendments have been tabled in respect of all the four provisions relating to Anglo-Indians. These amendments range from complete abolition to various degrees of curtailments.

Article 293. According to this provision the President may nominate not more than two members of my Community to the House of the People. Certain amendments seek to withdraw this provisions altogether or to reduce the number to one. As it is the word 'may' is used in the provision. Complete discretion has been given to the President as to whether he will nominate one or two or any. The use of this word was put in at your suggestion and on your suggestion to me to trust the discretion of those in power. I cannot, therefore, understand why in spite of the use of the word 'may' amendments should be tabled seeking to reduce the number from two to one.

contd:

Article 295. This article gives discretion to the Governors of the States to nominate representatives of the Community in the Legislatures of the States if the Community is not deemed to be adequately represented. Once again, the use of the word 'may' has left the matter entirely in the discretion of the Governors. In spite of this, amendments have been tabled seeking further to cut down the implications of the section.

Article 297. According to this provision quotas, in certain services, have been granted to the Community; but at intervals of two years there shall be a 10% reduction so that at the end of 10 years these reservations will cease. Amendments have now been tabled to make this section operative with retrospective effect. Whereas the provision contemplates implementation from the date on which the Constitution comes into operation, the amendments seek to make this provision operative from the 15th August, 1947.

Article 298. According to this provision the educational grants made for the benefit of the Community may be reduced by 10% at intervals of three years. This is a very vital provision to my Community. Anglo-Indian schools in fact cater, in most Provinces, predominantly for members of other communities. These schools are recognised by educationists, of all

contd:

communities, as serving a valuable purpose in the scheme of national education. Amendments have been tabled seeking to make this provision operative with retrospective effect from 1948.

If you were in Delhi I would have no doubt whatsoever about the rejection of all these amendments, but, in your absence, members of the Party, who are not aware of the spirit in which these safeguards were granted and their vital character in respect of the special needs of a microscopic minority, may, without understanding all the implications, rush through certain of the amendments. I would be completely unable to explain to my Community to whom I have constantly proclaimed the generous and understanding treatment accorded to it, the withdrawal, at this stage, of provisions granted for an interim period.

I shall be deeply grateful if you will be good enough to intervene during the crucial period when these articles come up for final consideration by the Congress Party. Advice by you to Ambedkar, Munshi and certain others would perhaps be sufficient: or finalisation of the provisions can be held over till your return to Delhi. Fairly rapid progress is now being made in the process of finalisation, the House having reached Article 200, although certain intermediate articles have been left over. Provisions concerning my Community may be reached in about 10 days' time. On an average, 10 articles are being disposed of each day.

I have one further request to make.

contd:

I believe the Constitution is being applied, after their consent has been secured, to what were formerly the Indian States. About the largest concentration of Anglo-Indians is to be found in Mysore in places like Bangalore, Kolar Gold Fields and other centres. Apart from representation which the Community used to receive, there are many valuable educational institutions of a first class character in the State. I have moved an amendment seeking to make Articles 295 and 298 apply to the Mysore State.

I earnestly request your final assistance on the matters raised by me for which I know the Community will be deeply grateful to you.

Thanking you and with my kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Frank Anthony)

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai J. Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister of India,
Minister in charge of Home Affairs and States,
Circuit House,
DEHRA DUN.

FRA/ON.

H. J. Khandekar, M.L.A.
Member, Constituent Assembly
President,
ALL INDIA DEPRESSED CLASSES LEAGUE

Umarer Road, NAGPUR

98

Date. 13.4. 19 49

Dear Sardarji

Last time I had recommended the name of Shri Amrit Lal Yadao, a Harijan, in the Rajasthan Ministry. I had also written a letter to Thakkar Bappa recommending his name. I personally met Shri Gokul Bhai Bhatt in this connection. Shri Bhatt explained me the situation in Rajasthan and his inability to include Shri Amrit Lal Yadao in the Ministry for various reasons and he wanted me to suggest any other suitable name either from the Harijans or Adibasis. From the explanation given by Shri Bhatt I was convinced and I did not press the name of Shri Amrit Lal Yadao for inclusion in the ministry and I therefore do not want to press this name this time too. But I am of opinion that a suitable Harijan should be given a chance in this ministry and I therefore recommend the following two names for your kind consideration:-

(1) Dr. Khub Ram Jajoria
(2) Shri Sourya Mal Mourya

Both of them have worked for the benefit of the Harijans and have been congressmen since long. Both are members of the Advisory Councils of the Chief Commissioners of Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara respectively

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

H. J. Khandekar

Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister,
Govt. of India,
1, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.

Kishori Mohan Tripathi,
Member of the Constituent Assembly Of
India (From Raigarh State, C.P.)

14-D Pherozshah Road,
New Delhi,
The 25.4., 1949.

To

The President, All India Congress Committee,
New Delhi.

Sir,

I shall be thankful if you please consider the following and take any proper action on it , if necessary:-

It has been my experience as also of many of my friends that our average worker on the field has no knowledge of the various activities relating to peoples' welfare as pursued by our Governments at the Centre and the Provinces. He, therefore, finds himself at great disadvantage when he works alongside workers blonging to the parties other than the Congress. He very often cannot refute baseless charges and allegations made against our Government by other parties. Moreover the average measure of our workers' knowledge is often lower than that of workers from other parties. I have been thinking during the last many days that something must atonce be done to raise our workers from this disadvantageous position.

I shall be thankful if you , therefore , take up the matter for serious consideration. In this connection I have the following humble suggestions to offer:-

(1) That the All India Congress Committee and the Provincial Congress Committees or the Congress parties in the legislatures at the Centre and the Units should publish monthly journals dealing with the high-lights of Governmental activities . These should be published in Hindi or Hindusthani and the various provincial languages . Copies of the same should be made available to all District Congress Committees free of charges at nominal cost.

(2) Training classes for improving the out-look and knowledge of our workers should be organised in each province.

(3) Central and Provincial Legislators should as a rule be called upon to tour their Constituencies for a fixed number of days at the end of each session to keep workers and people informed of Governmental activities.

I should be excused for having stolen upon your very valuable time .

Yours sincerely,

Kishori Mohan Tripathi

(Kishorimohan Tripathi.)

No. Dated the 25.4., 1949.

Copies forwarded to :-
(i) The Leader and (ii) The Deputy Leader, Congress Party at Centre and (iii) All Leaders of Congress parties in the Provinces (iv) All Presidents of Provincial Congress Committees.

Kishori Mohan Tripathi

Kishorimohan Tripathi.

O. V. Alagesan,
MEMBER, CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

Chingleput,
20-4-1949.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Sardarji,

There was an election on 9-4-49 in my district (Chingleput) to the Madras Legislative Council in the vacancy caused by the death of our late revered leader Sri. Muthuranga Mudaliar. The Congress candidate has won. Certain things came to light during this election and I thought I shall be failing in my duty if I do not bring the same to your notice for such action as you may deem fit.

The electorate was a restricted one consisting of 765 voters most of whom are rich persons. Many voters were affected by the Zamindari abolition act. Under these circumstances the adherents of the Dravida Kazhagam (who are no other than members of the now defunct Justice Party) decided to contest the election and confidently hoped to defeat the Congress. The candidate set up by them is one Sri. Balakrishna Mudaliar of Kancheepuram, who is related to Sir. A.Ramaswami Mudaliar. I reliably understand

P.T.O.

that Sir. A.Ramaswami Mudaliar advised - Sri. Balakrishna Mudaliar to oppose the - congress in the election. I also understand that Sir. A.Ramaswami Mudaliar asked one Sri. M.Vedhachala Mudaliar of Chingleput, who is also related to him and who is a leader of the Justice Party, to work against the Congress in the election in right earnest as he was rather lukewarm in the beginning. In spite of the fact that all the forces of the old - reactionary Justice Party including bribery and corruption were brought to bear upon the contest, the Congress came out successful.

I write this only to show that though the present Congress Governments both at the - Centre and in the Provinces have changed their attitude towards their old political opponents they on their part do not seem to have changed their old attitude towards the congress in the same spirit.

Yours sincerely,

G.V. Alagesan

20.6.49.

To

Hon.Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

New Delhi,
25th April 1949. 81

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your letter of the 23st April 1949. I am glad to know that the Conference concluded successfully and that you were able to achieve something of the main purpose underlying its being convened.

Yours sincerely
Sd. Vallabh bhai Patel

Shri Kishori Mohan Tripathi,
Member, Constituent Assembly
of India, Rajgarh, B.N.R.
(C.P.).

H

Raigarh, B.N.R.,
C.P.
21. 4. 49

Most revered Sardarji,

The Mahakoshal Provincial Political Conference to which I had had the previlege to invite you came off and concluded successfully. The great number of visitors from all parts of the province were greatly disappointed when we declared that it ~~was~~ had not been possible for you to grace the occasion for reasons of health. But the main purpose why I had been so much insistent on inviting you was achieved though in a small measure. All round Raigarh & even Raigarh itself is infested with socialist trends. But when at the end of the conference I met some of the poor socialist friends — workers of the lowest strata — they revealed it to me that they were under illusions. The well-knit & long exposition of Dr. Dwarika Prasad ji Mishra had a singular effect on mans

mind. We hope to exploit the situation created.

With the sincerest regards & ever aspiring for your blessings.

Obediently
Kishori Mohan Tripathy
Member CA of India

20 Windsor P lace,
New Delhi.
ated April 10,49.

Dear Mr. Shanker,

This is to introduce Shri Kunwar Bahadur Mathur who is in certain difficulties and would like to have your help in whatever way you can render. I have had a talk with him and the impression he has left on my mind is that circumstances have been very unfortunate for him. He has had a very brillient career and has been in the service both in the States and in the United Provinces either as Judge or as Assistant Collector. The last post he was holding was as Dewan of Bayra in Rajputana States. Due to the conditions created after partition his services were dispensed with. He has been trying since then to secure a post suitable to his qualifications and experience but

unfortunately he has not so far succeeded. I hope you will kindly give him sometime to hear him and if you, after hearing him, feel that he can be usefully employed in any of the departments of the Government, may I request you to do what you can.

He is taking with him the necessary papers which will give an idea of the various posts he has occupied and the numerous attempts he has made to secure service. The enclosed paper contains a short record of his past services.

Yours sincerely,

Jayaprakash

V.Shanker Esq.,ICS.,
Secretary to the
Hon'ble Minister for
Home Affairs,
New Delhi.

c/o R. S. Mathur Esq. Manager,
Vocational Training Centre
Lower Bela Road
KING EDWARD ROAD.
NEW DELHI. 11/4.

Dear Sir,

I desire to pay respects to you any day sometime convenient to you.

I have been given a letter of introduction by Shri Jugal Kishore Acharya

Should you be pleased to grant me an interview, I might submit that I may take some 15 minutes with you.

With respects

Yours sincerely

Kunwar Bahadur Mathur

MR. Kumar Bahadur possess long and varied experience in Revenue, Judicial and Administrative departments both in Rajputana and United Provinces.

Revenue:- Assistant Collector Ist class in the United Provinces for five years.

Judicial:- Fifteen years experience as District and Sessions Judge or Judge High Court in States of Rajputana.

Administration:- About two years as Dewan Laws.

Extracts from three notable officers and given.

(1) K.P.S.Menon, Esqr C.I.E., I.C.S. Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

"He came to Bharatpur with a reputation for loyalty for which his family has been distinguished and for legal ability which also he has inherited from his father who was a leading practitioner in Mathra. During the nine years of service in Bharatpur, there was a distinct improvement in the efficiency of District and Sessions Judge's Court , which was none too high a standard when he took over. His judgements were always clearly and vigorously written, revealing a firm grasp of both facts and law.".

(2). J.B.Pedly, Esqr C.I.E., I.C.S. Adviser to H.E. the Governor U.P.

"..... has served in a Judicial capacity for many years with credit..... has an exceptionally fine past record of service to Government or Local Authorities in the United Provinces....."

(3). H.S.Rose, Esqr C.I.E., I.C.S. Member, Board of Revenue, United Provinces.

"..... I make this recommendation since I know him when I was Collector of Mathra and later Commissioner of Agra. He has had wide experience of Judicial work..... he is also an Assistant Collector Ist Class with high reputation. He thus has both Revenue and Civil Court experience and has done much miscellaneous work.".

END/-

Sir,

Mr Amba Krishna phoned yesterday to request you to kindly introducing me to Mr V. Shanker whom I have to deliver a letter from Shri Jugal Kishore Acharya. I was asked to come here at 8 A.M.

May I present myself to you. Please

Yours truly

Kanwar Bahadur

1 Aurangazeb Road,
New Delhi, 7.4.49.

My dear Begum Sahiba,

With reference to the discussion we had on the telephone about Sardar coming to you for Lunch or Tea, I have consulted him. He is very sorry that, on account of his many engagements and a very busy programme, it will not be possible for him to accept your very kind invitation. He hopes it will be possible for him to do so the next time when the session is held in Delhi.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(V.SHANKAR).

Begum Aizaz Rasul,
Member, Constituent Assembly,
53, Western Court, NEW DELHI.

V.

16, Queens Way,
New Delhi,
31st March, 1949.

Dear Shri Sardar Sahib

I thank you for the kind message of good wishes and blessings sent on the occasion of laying the Corner-Stone of Bal Niketan premises at Indore (C.I.). You may be interested to learn that the occasion evoked excellent response both from the general public and the Government Officials: and a large gathering, including Ministers of the Madhya Bharat Union and Judges of the Bench, witnessed the ceremony when Hon'ble Rajendraprasadji laid the Corner-Stone on the 12th instant.

The proposed premises of which this corner-stone was laid, is to provide education on Dr.Montessori's principles and lines, for hundred children, both boys and girls. The premises would include, on a scale suitable to these children, a work-shop for crafts, and a Laboratory for sciences, e.g. Biology, Chemistry, Physics. The latter is to be fitter up according to the scheme evolved under the immediate direction of Dr.Montessori and is calculated to impart knowledge of the elementary principles of these sciences, by the time the children finish the pre-primary stage. It is claimed that in gaining this knowledge, the children will be simultaneously learning and improving the vehicle of this knowledge, namely the Vocabulary.

In this children's Home, children speaking Gujrati, Hindi, Marathi, are admitted and learn together. Experience of the last three years has shown that difference in language has not come in the way of mutual intercourse, or of progress in learning. On the other hand, each child has, without any effort, learned to understand and also a little to speak language of the others: a common vocabulary grows up which in its turn cements their mutual friendship. This modest

experiment may suggest a way to remove the present inter-Provincial and inter-langual jealousies, fears and suspicions.

The total costs are estimated to come to about Rs.60,000/-. The Bal Niketan Sangh has issued appeals for this sum in the hope and confidence that it would not fail to evoke adequate response from all those interested in the future of children and through that in the future of this country.

I enclose for your perusal a report describing the activities of the Sangh.

V. S. Sarwate

(V.S.Sarwate)
President,
Bal Niketan Sangh.

To

Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Minister for Home Affairs, Govt.of India,
1, Auranzeb Road, New Delhi.

For favour of perusal

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बाल-निकेतन-संघ

और

बाल निकेतन

१२ मार्च, १९४९

89/A

बाल निकेतन

"बाल निकेतन" (Child's Home)—इस शब्द को डॉ. मेरिया मॉन्टेसरीने प्रचलित किया है। इसके पीछे बाल-शिक्षा और बाल-मनोविज्ञान की एक निश्चित, सुसंगत और दृढ़ विचारधारा है। पिछले कुछ सालों में इस क्षेत्र में काफी सफल प्रयोग हुए हैं और शिक्षा-शास्त्रियों ने अपने अनुभवोंके आधार पर मूलभूत सिद्धांतों और तथ्यों की शोध की है। अभी हमारे देश में छोटे बालकों की शिक्षा की पूर्ण कल्पना नहीं फैल सकी है। आम लोगों की यह धारणा बनी हुई है कि शिक्षा का कार्यक्रम किसी एक खास उम्र और पाठ्यक्रम से चलता है। इससे, बालकों के सर्वांगीण विकास के लिए अनुकूल वातावरण न हम घर में बना सके हैं, न शाला में। बालक अनेकों प्रकार के बन्धनों में पलता है और अपना स्वाभाविक विकास नहीं कर पाता। यदि हम गहराई से विचार करें, तो पायेंगे कि इससे मानवता के विकास में बहुत बड़ी रुकावट पैदा हुई है। मनुष्य बार-बार कठिन आपदाओं-विपदाओं के समय जिस मानव समाज की कल्पना करता है, उसका निर्माण नहीं कर सका है। इसकी जड़ में यह मुख्य बात है कि मनुष्य अपने बच्चों को अपने ही अनुरूप ढालना चाहता है। वह उन्हें वैसे ही विचार, वैसी ही भावनाएँ और वैसी ही क्रिया-प्रतिक्रियायें सौंपना चाहता है, जिन्हें आधार बना कर वह स्वयं जी रहा है। इस प्रयत्न में हम बालकों को प्रारम्भ से ही समाज की बुराइयां भी सौंप देते हैं और ये इन कांटों के बीच अपनी सरलता, कोमलता और कुशाग्रता को कुंठित करते हुए आगे बढ़ने का संघर्ष करते हैं। ऐसी प्रतिकूलता में पनपने वाले ये नन्हें पौधे अपनी शक्तियों का मौलिक विकास कैसे कर सकते हैं? उन्हें तो वे सब बातें ग्रहण करना पड़ती हैं, जिन्हें मनुष्य एक बार ग्रहण कर चुकने पर बुरा समझते हुए भी नहीं छोड़ पा रहा

है। इस तथ्य का हमें विश्लेषण करना चाहिए और बाल शिक्षा-शास्त्रियों द्वारा जिन बुनियादी बातों की शोध की गई है, उन्हें समझने की पूरी-पूरी चेष्टा करनी चाहिए। मुख्यतः बाल-मानस-शास्त्र के बुनियादी ऊसूल ये हैं:—

(१) बालक की आत्मा में उन तमाम मानवीय गुणों के अंकुर विद्यमान हैं, जिनकी स्थापना हम शिक्षा द्वारा करना चाहते हैं। इसलिए शिक्षक का काम केवल ऐसी अनुकूल परिस्थितियाँ निर्माण कर देना है, जिससे बालकों को अपने आत्म-विकास का खुला अवसर मिल सके। शिक्षक को पढ़ाना नहीं है, केवल बच्चों के स्वाभाविक विकास को सरल बना देना है, उनके लिए ऐसे सीधे और सहयोग-प्रद साधन एकत्र कर देना है, जिनके सहारे वे अपनी मौलिक प्रतिभा का पूर्ण विकास कर सकें। बच्चे तो कली के समान हैं। कली खिलती है और पुष्प बनकर सुगन्ध फैला देती है। उसे केवल पर्याप्त सिंचन और खुला क्षेत्र चाहिए। बालकों के सम्बन्ध में भी यही बात है, उन्हें अनुकूल वातावरण चाहिए, उनके हृदय में छिपी शक्तियां तो अपने आप खिल उठेंगी।

(२) "क्रिया"—शिक्षा का सच्चा माध्यम है। क्रिया से सृजन करने की उमंग और स्फूर्ति का निर्माण होता है। नये-नये ज्ञान को प्राप्त करने की यही आधार-भूमि है। पुस्तकों या भाषणों के द्वारा दी जानेवाली कल्पनाओं को बालकों के कोमल दिमाग पूरी तरह नहीं पकड़ पाते, शून्य को आधार बना कर दौड़ने की शक्ति उनमें नहीं होती। वे तो प्रत्यक्ष काम द्वारा, ज्ञान प्राप्त करते हैं। क्रिया ही उनके मस्तिष्क में नई सूझ और नए विचार को जन्म देती है। ऐसा प्रत्यक्ष ज्ञान पुस्तकी-ज्ञान से अधिक स्थायी और प्रेरणात्मक होता है।

(३) बालकों को किसी भी भाषा के सीखने के लिए अलग से प्रयत्न नहीं करना पड़ता। ज्ञान के साथ-साथ वे भाषा भी सीखते चलते हैं। आज हमारी शिक्षा-पद्धति में भाषा का ज्ञान पहले और बाकी का ज्ञान बाद में देने की परिपाटी है। यह उल्टी बात है। अनुभव से यह देखा गया है कि विभिन्न भाषा-भाषी बच्चे अपनी बात बड़ी आसानी से व्यक्त कर लेते हैं, वे आपस में खूब हिल-मिल जाते हैं, हंसते-खेलते-कूदते हैं। इसमें वे एक-दूसरे की भाषा भी समझने लगते हैं। बाद में इन भाषाओं का व्याकरण सिखाना और उनके लिए समझना बड़ी आसान बात हो जाती है।

(४) ज्ञान अविभाज्य है (knowledge is one), परन्तु, आज की शिक्षा-पद्धति में हमने इसे अलग अलग दर्जों में बांट दिया है।

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बहुत सी विद्याएं एक खास दर्जे की पढ़ाई के बाद ही शुरू की जाती हैं। वास्तव में हमारे दैनिक जीवन के काम में आनेवाली विद्याएं प्रारम्भ से ही पढ़ाई जानी चाहिए। बालक बड़ी आसानी से रस के साथ उन्हें सीखते हैं। उदाहरण के लिए—वनस्पति-शास्त्र, प्राणि-शास्त्र, शरीर-विज्ञान, आदि—इनकी बहुतसी बातें बालक अपनी प्राथमिक अवस्था में ही सीख सकता है, केवल अनुकूल वातावरण और साधन जुटा देने की बात है।

(५) 'बाल निकेतन'—अर्थात् बालकों का घर। इसमें गूढ़ अर्थ छिपा पड़ा है। 'शाला' नहीं कहने की अपेक्षा 'घर' कहने का यही मतलब है कि बच्चों को शाला का वातावरण घर जैसा प्रतीत हो। वे अपनी स्वाभाविक क्रिया में कोई बाधा महसूस नहीं करें। उन्हें शाला में सच्चे आनन्द की अनुभूति होनी चाहिए। यही उनके विकास की नींव है। आनन्द की नींव पर टिका हुआ ज्ञान ही जीवन में स्थायिता पा सकता है।

(६) बालकों के व्यक्तित्व पर शिक्षक के व्यक्तित्व की छाप नहीं पड़नी चाहिए। शिक्षक को तो अपने व्यक्तित्व को मिटाकर बालकों के साथ समरसता पैदा करनी है, तभी बालकों को अपने विकास के लिए संकोच रहित वातावरण मिलेगा। शिक्षक तो बालक की मां है। माँ के सामने बच्चा सारा संकोच छोड़कर अपने स्वाभाविक रूप में प्रगट होता है। शिक्षक को भी ऐसा ही मुक्त वातावरण अपनी शाला में निर्माण करना चाहिए।

(७) जीवन को सुखी, समृद्ध और उन्नत बनाना ही शिक्षा का ध्येय हो सकता है। इसके लिए यह अनिवार्य है कि बालक स्वावलम्बी बनें। आज तो हम सबके जीवन की भी मुक्ति स्वावलम्बन है। इसलिए बालकों का शिक्षण इस प्रकार हो कि उन्हें अपने शरीर के सारे अवयवों, ज्ञानेन्द्रियों और मन के विभिन्न स्तरों को कार्यक्षम, कुशाग्र और चुस्त बनाने का पूरा पूरा अवसर मिले। उनमें एकाग्रता, स्वच्छता और संतुलन के भाव गहरी जड़ें पकड़ लें।

इन उसूलों पर हम मनन करें, तो पाएंगे कि बच्चे अपने आसपास की तमाम वस्तुओं को एक ही सूत्र में देखना और समझना चाहते हैं। उनके मन पर होनेवाली क्रिया-प्रतिक्रियाओं में सच्चे विकास के प्राणवान बीज छिपे पड़े हैं। वे यदि स्वस्थ वायुमंडल में रक्खें जायँ तो घृणा, द्वेष, हिंसा आदि मानसिक विकारों को आधार बनाकर जीनेवाली दुनिया को उनसे स्नेह, प्रेम और शान्ति के साथ मिल-जुल कर रहने का महान् सबक मिलेगा।

इसलिए हमारी बाल-शालाएं भावी विश्व-संस्कृति की नींव डालनेवाले ऐसे केन्द्र-बिन्दु बनें, जो अहिंसक समाज की नव-रचना के स्वप्न को पूरा कर सकें।

इन्दौर में बाल-शिक्षा का प्रारम्भ

यों तो सारे देश में ही छोटे-बालकों (तीन साल से सात साल तक की उम्र के) के शिक्षण को अभी उपेक्षा की दृष्टि से देखा जा रहा है। हम अभी बाल शिक्षा के समुचित महत्व को नहीं समझ पाए हैं। फिर भी पिछले कुछ सालों से छोटे-छोटे प्रयत्न अवश्य हो रहे हैं। डॉ. मॉंटेसरी से प्रेरणा पाकर कहीं-कहीं खानगी और सरकारी बाल-शालाएँ चल रही हैं। नूतन बाल-शिक्षण-संघ, बम्बई ने इस दिशा में काफी सफल प्रयोग किए हैं। परन्तु, हमारी विशाल जनसंख्या के मान में ये प्रयत्न नहीं से हैं। इतना ही संतोष मानकर चलें कि कम मात्रा में हो सही हमारे प्रयत्न सही दिशा में बढ़ने के हो रहे हैं।

इन्दौर में बाल-शिक्षा के प्रारंभ का श्रेय श्री इन्दिराबाई भागवत को है, जो इन्दौर शिक्षा-विभाग की डायरेक्टर रह चुकी हैं। उनके प्रयत्नों से सन् १९४२ में सरकार की ओर से एक "नर्सरी स्कूल" की स्थापना की गई। यह एक आदर्श बाल-शाला तो नहीं बन पाई है, परन्तु उस ऊंचाई तक पहुँचने के लिए प्रयत्नशील अवश्य है। इसके पूर्व "मंजुलाश्रम" नाम की संस्था इस क्षेत्र में छोटे-मोटे प्रयोग कर रही थी। बहुत से लोगों ने बाल-शिक्षा में व्यक्तिगत रूप से भी दिलचस्पी ली है। उन्होंने डॉ. मॉन्टेसरी के शिक्षण-केन्द्रों में शिक्षण पाकर बाल-शिक्षा के प्रति इन्दौर के शिक्षित समाज में एक वातावरण निर्माण किया है।

"नर्सरी स्कूल" के सारे खर्चे साधारण आदमी के लिए बहुत भारी हैं। मध्यम श्रेणी और मजदूर श्रेणी के बालकों को इस शाला का कोई लाभ नहीं मिल पा रहा है। अरसे से कुछ लोग इसके प्रयत्न में थे कि कुछ बाल-शालाएँ इस तरीके से संचालित की जावें, जिनमें अधिक खर्च नहीं आये और साधारण परिस्थिति का आदमी भी अपने बालकों को इसका लाभ दे सके। सन् १९४९ में श्री शालिनी मोघे ने **"बाल निकेतन"** की स्थापना इसी दृष्टिकोण को सामने रखकर की। इस बाल-शाला को भी आदर्श तक पहुँचाने के समुचित साधन उपलब्ध नहीं हो सके हैं। अतः शिक्षा के कार्य-क्रम में थोड़ा परिवर्तन करना पड़ा और जितना हो सकता था उतने से ही संतोष मानकर बाल-निकेतन चलाया गया। इन्दौर में ऐसी ही दो बाल-शालाएँ और चल रही हैं। एक श्रीमती कोचरेकर की और एक श्री देवकुमारसिंहजी की। कुछ बाल-शिक्षा प्रेमी सज्जन एक संगठन के रूप में भी इस दिशा में प्रयत्न-शील हैं।

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सौभाग्य से सन् १९४६ में नूतन बाल-शिक्षण संघ, बम्बई ने अपने हिन्दी विभाग का सम्मेलन इन्दौर में करने की इच्छा प्रकट की। दिसम्बर १९४६ को यह सम्मेलन हुआ। सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन माननीय चक्रवर्ती श्री राजगोपालाचारी ने किया। इसका संचालन श्री ताराबहन मोदक, श्री नामले आदि बाल-शिक्षा के गहरे चिन्तकों और विचारकों ने किया। सम्मेलन में बाल-शिक्षा के विविध पहलुओं पर तज्ञों द्वारा विवेचनात्मक भाषण हुए और इसके व्यावहारिक रूप पर काफी लम्बा विचार-विनिमय किया गया। सम्मेलन के साथ ही बाल-साहित्य और बाल-शिक्षा के साधनों की एक प्रदर्शिनी भी आयोजित की गई थी। इस प्रदर्शिनी से लोगों को बाल-शिक्षा के बारे में प्रत्यक्ष कल्पना हुई और वे इसके महत्व को थोड़ा-बहुत समझ सके। इस सम्मेलन को सफल बनाने में मध्यभारत की कई सहयोगी संस्थाओं, इन्दौर की बाल-शिक्षा प्रेमी जनता और सरकार ने पूरा-पूरा सहयोग दिया था। इन्दौर के नागरिकों ने सम्मेलन में हुई चर्चाओं, भाषणों आदिको गहरी दिलचस्पी से सुना था और प्रदर्शिनी का पूरा पूरा लाभ उठाया था। इससे निश्चित रूपसे एक अनुकूल वातावरण बना और यह भान होने लगा था कि इस भूमिका पर बाल-शिक्षा के कार्य को काफी प्रोत्साहन और बल मिलेगा।

बाल-निकेतन-संघ की स्थापना

इन्दौर ही नहीं, सारे मध्य-भारत में इस आयोजन से बाल-शिक्षा के प्रति एक आकर्षण पैदा हुआ और कई जगह बाल-शालाएँ खुलने के चिन्ह नजर आने लगे। पालकों की ओर से इस कार्य में खूब उत्साह मिला। कई स्थानों पर बाल-शालाएँ खुल भी गईं। प्रारम्भ से ही इस दिशा में एक मिला-जुला प्रयत्न हो सके तथा सारे कार्य में सुसम्बद्धता और सुसंगतता आ सके, इसके लिए एक ऐसे संगठन के स्थापन की आवश्यकता महसूस हुई जो बाल-शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में किए गए संशोधनों तथा प्रयोगों के अनुसार शास्त्र-शुद्ध सिद्धान्त एवं पद्धति पर बाल-शिक्षा का प्रसार व प्रचार करे तथा जगह-जगह कायम होनेवाली बाल-शालाओं में एकसूत्रता लावे। जून सन् १९४७ को यह विचार अमल में भी आया और बाल-निकेतन-संघ नाम की एक संस्था स्थापित की गई, जिसका रजिस्ट्रेशन भी हो गया है। इसका कार्य-क्षेत्र सारा मध्य-भारत है, परन्तु सोचा यह गया था कि अभी फिलहाल विशेष ध्यान इन्दौर शहर पर ही दिया जाय।

संघ के उद्देश की पूर्ति के लिए काम की एक छोटीसी रूपरेखा भी बनाई गई। यह सोचा गया कि जगह-जगह बाल-शालाएँ, कीडांगन तथा

बाल-वाचनालय स्थापित करना, बाल-शिक्षा का कार्य करनेवाली वर्तमान संस्थाओं को आवश्यकतानुसार आर्थिक तथा अन्य प्रकार की सहायता करना, बाल-शिक्षा सम्बन्धी पत्र-पत्रिकाएं एवं अन्य उपयोगी साहित्य प्रकाशित करना, सम्मेलन, प्रदर्शन तथा व्याख्यान-मालाओं का आयोजन करना, दूसरे प्रान्तों में काम कर रहे ऐसे संगठनों की जानकारी एकत्र कर उनके अनुभवों का लाभ उठाना, उनसे सम्पर्क साधना तथा समय-समय पर शिक्षकों की ट्रेनिंग के लिए शिक्षण-केम्प खोलना, आदि। बाल-शिक्षा का महत्व, इसके मूलभूत सिद्धान्त और बाल-मनोविज्ञान की जानकारी आम लोगों को मिलती रहे और वे समझकर इसके लिए अपने मानस को तैयार करें इस ओर विशेष ध्यान देने की बात भी सोची गई।

इस कार्यक्रम के किसी भी हिस्सेको हाथमें लेने के पूर्व साधनों की विकट समस्या सामने आई। संघ की मुख्य जिम्मेवारी तो यह है कि वह एक आदर्श बाल-शाला चलाकर, और उसमें प्रत्यक्ष प्रयोग द्वारा नई-नई शोध करके अन्य बाल-शालाओं का मार्गदर्शन करे और बाल-शिक्षाके महत्व को अपने क्षेत्र के प्रत्येक पालक के पास पहुँचा दे। यों श्री शालिनी मोघे द्वारा यह छोटीसी बाल-शाला संघके मार्गदर्शन में ही चलाई जा रही है, परन्तु ७० बालक-बालिकाओं की यह शाला इतने छोटेसे स्थानपर चलाई जा रही है कि नये-नये प्रयोग करना एकदम असम्भव सा ही है। आदर्श बाल-मन्दिरके लिए पर्याप्त हाल, कमरे, मैदान चाहिए तथा प्रयोग के लिए प्रयोगशाला और समृद्ध वाचनालय वगैरा चाहिए। किसी खुले स्थान पर एक स्वतंत्र भवनमें ही ऐसे आदर्श बाल-मन्दिर की कल्पना की जा सकती है।

आनन्द की बात है कि इन्दौर म्युनिसिपालिटी और सरकारकी सहानुभूति इस कार्य में पूरी-पूरी रही है। म्यु. ने शहर के मध्य में बाल-मन्दिरके लिए एक स्थान देकर संघके कामों को काफी प्रोत्साहन दिया है। इसी तरह इम्प्रूवमेंट ट्रस्ट, इन्दौर ने भी पागनीस पागा में (जहाँ आज आदरणीय डॉ राजेन्द्रप्रसादजी अपने कर कमलों से यहाँ बननेवाले भवनका शिलान्यास कर रहे हैं।) एक ब्लॉक लागत कीमत में देकर संघ की बहुत बड़ी मदद की है। बाल-शिक्षा में दिलचस्पी रखनेवाले सज्जन और संघ इनके बड़े कृतज्ञ रहेंगे। (म्युनिसिपल कौंसिल के सदस्यों और श्री जोगळेकर इंजीनियर का सहयोग विशेष उल्लेखनीय है।)

सन् १९४६ में जो सम्मेलन हुआ था, उसके प्रबन्ध के लिए एकत्र किये गए धन में से कुछ रकम शेष बची थी। उसे सम्मेलन और प्रदर्शिनी की कार्य-समिति ने भवन निर्माण के लिए प्रदान कर संघ को बड़ा उपकृत किया है। इस रकम के अलावा संघ के पास और कोई रकम अभी

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एकत्र नहीं हो सकी है। यह रकम इतनी कम है कि इससे भवन की नींव डालना भी शक्य नहीं है। संघ श्री हेमचन्द्रजी डे का अत्यन्त आभारी है कि उन्होंने कृपापूर्वक भवन-निर्माण का भार अपने कन्धे पर लिया है, और हमारी तात्कालिक चिन्ता को कुछ समय के लिए दूर करने में सहायता प्रदान की है।

अनुमान है कि इस भवन के निर्माण में कम से कम लगभग पच्चीस हजार रुपये लगेंगे। संघ, सरकार, म्युनिसिपालिटी और बाल-शिक्षा के महत्व को समझनेवाले तमाम धनी-मानी सज्जनोंसे इस कार्यमें मुक्त हस्त से सहयोग मिलने की पूर्ण आशा रखता है। भवन बन जाने पर ही संघ के उद्देश की पूर्ति में एक छोटेसे कार्य का प्रारम्भ हो सकेगा। यों तो इन्दौर शहर में लगभग तीस हजार तीन से-सात साल तक की उम्र के छोटे बालक हैं। इन सब बालकों की शिक्षा के प्रबन्ध की कल्पना करें तो लगभग ३०० बाल-शालाओंकी स्थापना इस शहर में करनी होगी। इतना बड़ा और सामुदायिक कार्य तो सरकार द्वारा ही पूरा हो सकता है। परन्तु, जब तक ऐसा कोई आयोजन नहीं होता, तब तक छोटे-बड़े खानगी प्रयत्न तो चलने ही चाहिएँ। और यह बाल-शाला तो प्रयोग की दृष्टि से अपना अलग ही महत्व रखती है। यहाँ होनेवाले प्रयोगों से अन्य सहयोगी शालाओं को भी काफी बल पहुँचेगा।

सेवा भावना

इस समय बाल-निकेतन में जो शिक्षिकाएँ शिक्षण-कार्य कर रही हैं, उनके काम का आधार सेवाभाव है। उन्होंने अपने खर्च से ही इसका शिक्षण प्राप्त किया और बहुतसा धन अपने पास से लगाकर उपयोगी साधन-सामग्री जुटाई। वे अरसे तक अवैतनिक कार्य करती रहीं और आज भी नाममात्रका पारिश्रमिक लेकर बड़ी ही लगन से यह कार्य कर रही हैं। उन्हें अपनी कल्पनाओं को मूर्तरूप देने में अब अनेकों कठिनाइयाँ महसूस होती हैं। स्थानाभाव के कारण वे बालकों को भूगोल, वनस्पति-शास्त्र, प्राणि-शास्त्र, भूमिति, पदार्थ-विज्ञान आदिका पर्याप्त शिक्षण नहीं दे पा रही हैं। रह रह कर उनके दिलों में यह अभाव खटकता है। यों उन्होंने अपने सीमित साधनों में भी अनेकों बातें साधनेकी कोशिश की है। प्रत्येक बालक की मनोदशा और प्रगति को ध्यानपूर्वक नोट करके एक बड़ा दिलचस्प रेकार्ड बना डाला है, कताई-उद्योग को भी शुरू किया है तथा समय-समय पर पालकों से भी सम्पर्क रखने का प्रयत्न किया है, उन्हें उनके बच्चों की आवश्यक जानकारी और सूचनाएं दी हैं। इस समय बालकों की संख्या ७० है। इनके लिए एक प्रधान-शिक्षिका और अन्य तीन सहयोगी शिक्षिकाएं हैं।

हमारे भावी स्वप्न

अभी तक इस छोटीसी शाला से जो अनुभव आये हैं उनसे ज्ञात होता

है कि यह कार्य बहुत ही गहरा और विस्तृत है । इसमें जितने नीचे पैठो, उतने ही कीमती मोती हाथ लगते हैं । हमारी कल्पना है कि हम वैज्ञानिक ढंग से इस बाल-शाला का चौतरफा विकास करें । धीरे-धीरे सुविधानुसार हमें निम्न साधन जुटाने होंगे:—

(१) एक सयुक्त प्रयोग-शाला, जिसमें सब प्रकार के ज्ञान-विज्ञान और कला के बारे में अध्ययन करने के साधन हों ।

(२) एक उपयोगी वस्तु-संग्रहालय, जिससे बालकों को प्रत्यक्ष ज्ञान मिल सके ।

(३) एक बाल क्रीडांगण ।

(४) एक बाल-वाचनालय और एक शिक्षकों के अध्ययन के लिए अच्छा सम्पन्न पुस्तकालय ।

(५) साहित्य प्रकाशित करने योग्य साधन ।

(६) नये शिक्षकों की ट्रेनिंग के लिए एक ट्रेनिंग-केन्द्र चलाने की व्यवस्था आदि ।

सहयोग की आशा

बाल-शिक्षा में रस लेने वाले लोगों को यह अनुभव आया होगा कि "पूर्व-प्राथमिक शिक्षा" का जीवन में कितना बड़ा महत्व है । २ से ७ तक की उम्र में बच्चा अनेकों संस्कारों को प्राप्त कर लेता है । वह यदि उचित मार्ग-दर्शन और वातावरण में पला है, तो उसमें नियमितता, अनुशासन, व्यवस्थितता एकाग्रता, समाज-सेवा की भावना आदि गुणों के अंकुर अपनी जड़ें जमा लेते हैं । यह समय उसके जीवन के सुनहरी दिन हैं । इसकी उपेक्षा बच्चे के विकास में तो बाधक ही है, साथ ही अच्छे नागरिक के निर्माण में भी बाधा-जनक बन जाती है । आज नहीं तो कल सारे समाज को ही अपने जीवन के अनेकों दूसरे कामों में पूर्व-प्राथमिक शिक्षण के कार्य को प्रमुख स्थान देना होगा ।

हमें पूर्ण आशा है कि इन्दौर के तमाम नागरिक इसे अपने ही जीवन का एक महत्वपूर्ण कार्य समझकर इसमें अपना पूरा-पूरा सहयोग देंगे । सरकार से भी हमारा निवेदन है कि वह हमें हर तरह का सहयोग प्रदान कर, एक आदर्श केन्द्र की स्थापना में मदद करें । मध्यभारत के लिए ऐसे अनेकों केन्द्रों की जरूरत है । यदि हम अपना सारा ध्यान इस ओर लगा दें, तो आनेवाली पीढ़ी मजबूत कन्धों से देश का कारोबार संभालने लायक बन जावेगी और मानवता के विकास में वह पूरा-पूरा हाथ बँटा सकेगी ।

बाल-निकेतन-संघ का प्रारम्भिक व्यवस्थापक-मंडल

29/E

१. श्री वि. सी. सरबटे (अध्यक्ष)

२. ,, श्री. ल. तांबे (उपाध्यक्ष)

३. ,, वैजनाथजी महोदय

४. ,, बालकिशनजी मुछाल

५. ,, देवकुमार सिंहजी

६. ,, भानुदासजी शाह

७. ,, लक्ष्मीनारायणजी जोशी

८. ,, डॉ. ठाकुर

९. ,, शालिनी मोघे

१० ,, मोरेश्वर मोघे

११ ,, माणकचन्द कटारिया (मंत्री)

मॉडर्न प्रिन्टरी लि०, इन्दौर.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

New Delhi, 29. 3. 49

Revered Sardarji,

We representatives from C.P. States beg to express our heart-felt thankful-ness to you for the steps you have been pleased to take on our representation. We learn that the C.P. Govt is contemplating to reduce ~~rates~~ prices of Timber & Bamboo (Forest Products) ()ow. We are sure it is with your advice that this most needed relief has been granted to our people.

Yours most obediently
Kishori Mohan Tripathi
R. L. Malviya

Immediate

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL.

TEL. ADDRESS:
"LOKASABHA"
टेलीफोन नं.
अहमदाबाद - ७२४६
दिल्ली - ४०३०७
मुंबई - ६०६२०

No.D.914/49.

20, Akbar Road,
New Delhi, the 28th March, 1949.

Re: The Governor-General's salary (exemption from taxation), 1949.

My dear Vallabhbhai,

I write this to invite your attention to a small point which may be examined, and if necessary, a suitable amendment may be made.

It is clear from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, as also from the Preamble (paragraph 2) that the agreement has to be given effect to from 1st January, 1949.

In clause 2 of the Bill no date is mentioned, and it is generally stated (line 5, et seq.) :

"Salary due to him (whether paid or not) for any period for which he draws salary at a rate, etc."

Now, the Act will presumably come into force from the date on which ~~it is passed, and~~ the assent of the Governor-General is given to it. It appears that the clause is not clear as to the exemption of tax from salary due from 1st January, 1949, and the date on which the present Act receives the assent of the Governor-General. Presumably, reliance is placed upon the Ordinance.

Though the point is not likely to be contested by anyone before any judicial authority, I think, relying upon the Ordinance for a legal exemption from the tax is of doubtful legal value. In my opinion, the Ordinance is clearly ultra vires of the Government, and it would be better, therefore, to safeguard the legal position by insertion of some such words as :" from and after 1st January, 1949" after the words "salary due to him" in line 5 of clause 2.

I/

I am writing this only to invite your attention to the necessity of having the legal position examined.

You propose to put this Bill for disposal today. I am afraid, it will not be possible to put it through in a short time, and it is bound to give rise to some discussion which may prove long. The members may not like that a larger time should be taken today, as they will naturally be eager to discuss the Railway Report.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mavalankar

(G. V. Mavalankar).

To/
The Hon'ble
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime-Minister to the Govt.of India,
1, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.

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Ref. HM's remarks "For Menon & Bunch" on the reverse of the attached letter, will P.S. please say if the whole cor. re. Mr. C. K. Desai should be forwarded to Adviser?

N. V. Vaidyanathan
24/3/49

HM will discuss this with Prof K T Shah. No action.
V Shankar
28/3

P S to HM

93

8, Laburnum Road,
Gamdevi,
Bombay 7.

16th March 1949.

Personal.

Hon. Sardar Valabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister of India,
1, Aurangzeb Road,
New Delhi.

Murabhi Sardar Saheb,

I have to acknowledge, with many thanks, your letter dated the 12th inst. regarding Mr. G. K. Desai, Chief Commissioner of Cutch. I have noted the explanation given, which I think will help to clear up the misunderstanding.

Meanwhile, will you permit me to add that many complaints are even now being received from Cutch, on which the Chief Commissioner cannot be wholly excused or exonerated. For instance, I do not know if your Ministry has received any reports about wholesale smuggling going on between Cutch and Pakistan through the Rann. A number of other happenings, particularly in regard to rights in land, sea customs, currency, also need careful investigation.

As I am myself from Cutch, and had taken a leading part in organising the Cutchi Prajakiya Parishad, people still write to me, and request me to look into these matters. As a member of the Constituent Assembly, as a friend and well-wisher of the Government, and particularly as an admirer of your own work in connection with the States, I would very much like to be in a position to give the lie to these stories authoritatively, if I am in a position to do so.

During the interval between the end of the present Sessions of the Assembly and beginning of the Constituent Assembly proper on May 16th, if you so desire, I would willingly pay a visit to Cutch, as an independent enquirer, and report to you direct on all the questions connected therewith.

You will, of course, be in no way committed; and may get some good material that may be of use to you.

I trust you will appreciate the spirit in which I am making this suggestion, which is likely to bring me only trouble and inconvenience, and no advantage whatsoever. I would only add that if any real good is to come out of the suggestion, the visit should be without notice to the authorities concerned in Cutch, except for such courtesies and facilities as are due to a member of Parliament. Or in the alternative, if it is publicised, the authority or status given me should also be made public at the same time.

I am here in Bombay for a week in connection with the winding-up proceedings of the National Planning Committee about which I had spoken to you last month; and shall be returning to Delhi on the 21st. From then on till the end of the Sessions, I shall be at your disposal, should you want me.

With kind regards and many thanks,

Yours sincerely,

K. T. Shah

1 Aurangzeb Road,
New Delhi, 12.3.49.

My dear Kamath,

In the Party meeting the other day, you referred to the case of Shri. C.K. Desai who is at present Chief Commissioner of Cutch. I am sending herewith a copy of an extract of a letter which I sent to Shri. B. Shiva Rao on this subject. This explains the circumstances in which the appointment was made.

Yours sincerely,

Shri. Hari Vishnu Kamath,
Member, Constituent Assembly of India,
142 Constitution House,
Curzon Road, New Delhi.

V.

95

1 Aurangazeb Road,
New Delhi, 12.3.49.

The other day, you put in the Assembly some questions about the appointment of Chief Commissioner, Cutch. Shri.B. Shiva Rao also raised the same question, and I am sending herewith a copy of an extract of a letter which I sent to him on the subject. This explains the circumstances in which the appointment was made.

Yours sincerely,

Professor K.T.Shah,
Member, Constituent Assembly of India,
14-E, Ferozeshah Road, NEW DELHI.

V.

Extract from a letter dated the 8th March 1949 from the Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Deputy Prime Minister, India, New Delhi, to Shri B. Shiva Rao, Member, Constituent Assembly, Hardinge Avenue, New Delhi.

X X X X X

As regards Shri C.K. Desai, who is now Chief Commissioner, Cutch, the position is as follows. He was at first dismissed from service on account of his misconduct, but was given compassionate allowance. Ordinarily dismissal precludes compassionate allowance, but since in this case, a compassionate allowance was given, we can assume that the Public Service Commission at the time did not take such a grave view of his conduct. His case was first represented to us in 1938 by Mr. V.N. Mehta, who was then Commissioner in U.P. He suggested that the case should be reviewed because an overstrict view of the case had been taken because of Shri Desai's nationalistic views. I referred this case to Pantji, and as far as I remember, the case was taken up, but it was not possible to take it further partly because of the then European set-up and partly because we left office in 1939. When we assumed office, Mr. Desai renewed his representations, which were referred to the U.P. Government. The U.P. Government took the view that, even on the facts then proved, the punishment of dismissal was too severe and the case was really one of removal; they also increased his compassionate allowance. Later, when we were in need of a suitable officer for the post of Regional Commissioner and we could not find a man from any province, we nominated him to the post of Regional Commissioner, Kolhapur. His case was thus reviewed after about 20 years of the original order - a period after which even a life convict is given a chance to rehabilitate himself. He did very good work at Kolhapur. When the appoint of Chief Commissioner, Cutch, had to be made, we asked Bombay Government whether they could suggest a suitable officer who knew Gujerati. They could not suggest any. The post of Regional Commissioner, Kolhapur, was rendered surplus by the merger of the Deccan States in Bombay. We, therefore, transferred Shri C.K. Desai to the post of Chief Commissioner, Cutch. The appointment is temporary, and we are on the look-out for a suitable man from the regular service to replace him. In fact, we have written to Bombay Government already to suggest some suitable officer. In the meantime, you would be interested to know that the local Praja Mandal and the Cutch representative in the Constituent Assembly speak very well of his work and are quite averse to any change until the prevalent famine conditions improve.

Y Y Y Y

TEL: 4
2987

Personal

CONGRESS PARTY
CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

LEADER: JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

24, COUNCIL HOUSE.
NEW DELHI.

March 9th, 1949

Param Pujniya Sardar Saheb,

Most humbly I beg leave to enclose herewith copy of a letter I have sent yesterday to Pt. Panditji.

The letter being brief may be vague and abrupt at places. My strong views on the working of the Party compelled me to write this letter, inspite of the greatest personal embarrassment.

I humbly beg to apologise for any indiscretion implied in my act.

With my respectful & humble regards.

Yours loyally
Rajkumari

Param Pujniya Sardar Patel Saheb

PERSONAL.

24, Council House,
New Delhi, 5th March, 1949.

Param Pujniya Panditji,

I earnestly apologise to you for this personal note. I also regret my decision - though taken with extreme reluctance - to address you directly.

2. I have tried to carry on as Office Secretary for more than three years. Though throughout I have had to function under serious personal hardships, (no proper residence, no proper subsistence allowance - only 325/- wherein to try maintain self, wife and three growing children - no proper transport; the lot of my colleagues in the office is not by any chance very happy) my sense of loyalty - which is my only qualification - has so far sustained me. I must confess however, that I have failed miserably to do anything in the organisational sphere. It is possibly due to a certain lack of tact on my part. I could not gain complete confidence of my immediate seniors which was so essential for securing proper atmosphere for a certain amount of freedom of action.

I have had some very good ideas regarding the working of the Party Office. Given proper encouragement and support I could have done something substantial regarding better understanding between the Government and the Party members. An efficient complaints section, an efficient reference section, an efficient questions section, an efficient cuttings section, an efficient Standing Committees section, and an efficient liaison section, firstly for liaison between the Government and individual members of the Party, secondly for liaison between our Party and the Congress Parties in the Provincial and States legislatures, would, I have no doubt, have produced results. It would also mean economy in different ministries.

3. The continued sense of frustration on account of my ineffectiveness and my father's sudden death have made matters worse for me. I find it extremely difficult to carry on. I wish I could severe my connections with the Party. As conditions stand today, I feel I must carry on, getting out would be cowardly. In order that my connections with the Party improve still further, most humbly I beg leave to place four suggestions for your consideration.-

(1) As long as Hon'ble Sjt. S.N. Sinha continues to be the Chief Whip of the Party, as the Office Secretary of the Congress Party I may be considered for appointment as his Honorary Secretary in his other capacity as the Government Chief Whip. It will mean better coordination between the two offices, resulting in a great deal of economy and efficiency.

(2) I may be allowed to have something to do with the Constitution Club. In my view, the Club, if properly organised, could help us a great deal in bringing better understanding between the M.C.As. and the Services.

(3) Shri Chakravarthi, Secretary Parliamentary Board, is going abroad as an U.N.O. student. I feel, I can in addition to my other duties take on this work. The association will result in close coordination between the Congress Party and the Parliamentary Board, the urgency of which is being felt for quite a long time.

(4) I belong to the Bhopal State. During the recent past I have actively tried (on my own initiative) to be of some small service to the States Ministry, H.H. the Nawab of Bhopal and the people of Bhopal. I have been

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very keen to have the honour of representing Bhopal in the C.A. here, so that I could be of some real use to the Party. I have had occasions of discussing this question with Nawab Sahib. Though His Highness was favourable to the idea otherwise, for political reasons he thought it expedient to leave Bhopal unrepresented.

Now that the States Ministry is very near a solution of Bhopal, I am in urgent need of your blessings as well as the blessings of Param Pujniya Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, if I am otherwise qualified.

With my humble regards.

Yours sincerely,

Rajpatkai

3/19

4, Hardinge Avenue,
New Delhi,
March 9, 1949.

Dear Sardarji,

I am grateful to you for your letter of 8th March 1949. I greatly appreciate the trouble you have taken in furnishing me details of the cases to which I had referred in my two letters to you.

In view of the importance of the issue raised, I hope that you will permit me to explain my point of view. In my speech on the budget, on account of the timelimit imposed on speakers, I could not say more than I did in regard to officers removed from service being reinstated and placed in responsible positions. I am aware of the fact that an officer removed from office is eligible for re-employment.

I am aware too of the serious strain on Government in finding suitable personnel in view of the largescale retirement of officers or of officers opting out for Pakistan after 15th August 1947. Nevertheless I was, and still am, of the view that men, who were removed from service by findings of the Public Services Commission on grounds of serious irregularity or impropriety of conduct while in service, should not be reinstated. In saying this I am not thinking of the discontent that may be caused among service men by any such reinstatement. But I am strongly of the opinion that Government should attach the utmost importance to integrity among its officers. Reinstatement of a man removed for chronic indebtedness and incapacity to repay loans--which is a euphemism for taking bribes--has a disastrous effect on men in the services.

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Government cannot afford to lower standards of integrity. For me it is not a question of a few or more officers being reinstated.

The problem of shortage of officers, especially in the higher ranks, has no doubt been a serious one. It could and should have been tackled by raising the age of retirement from 55 to 58 as has been suggested by the Pay Commission. Personally I have no objection to retirement being brought back for a certain period in order to meet an emergency.

I hope you will not mind my expressing my view so frankly, because I know that in the Central Secretariat as well as in the provinces the code of conduct prescribed for Government servants has less meaning today than under the British.

I do not think you can find in the speeches I have made in the Assembly a single word to discourage the members of the services. On the other hand, I have always stood up for their just rights. I am bound to press for measures of economy in every Ministry but I am anxious to see our services contented, wholeheartedly loyal to the Government and above temptation of every sort.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

B. Shiva Rao

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister, India,
New Delhi.

CONFIDENTIAL.

1, Aurangzeb Road,
New Delhi, 8.3.1949.

My dear Shiva Rao,

Thank you for your letters of the 5th and 7th March 1949. I am very glad that you have given me all the details.

2. As I have already explained several times on the floor of the House, we have to take ex-employees of Government, whether retired or removed from service, because of the prevailing man-power shortage. You know as well as I do that, as a result of the expansion of the Departments and the depletion in the Services, there have been quick promotions. At the same time, the expansion continues and we have to see that, as far as possible, we get men of experience in the various posts, which have to be filled even at short notice. The pressure and urgency are such that we cannot afford in many cases to wait until we select a raw recruit and train him. It is to deal with this problem that we hit upon the plan of making Emergency Recruitment to the I.A.S. I hope that, when the final recruitments to this Emergency Cadre are made, our position will be better. But till then, I can assure you that the position is very difficult and there is very often hardly any choice before Government. The taking into service of retired or "removed" persons naturally gives rise to discontent, but I feel that the Services as a whole have had such quick promotions that they can have no reasonable cause for complaint or for demoralisation if a handful of persons are taken from amongst the categories referred to above. Actually the quick promotions have affected the general efficiency of the Services. None is, or can be, more conscious of keeping up the morale of the Services and Government servants than myself, and none has laboured more for it. If, therefore, I have taken or we have agreed to take any of these personnel, it is only because we felt that for the time being at any rate we have no alternative and that, in preferring them to men who might have been promoted, we are on just grounds.

3. There is also the general position that removal from service does not place a bar on reemployment. The cases to which you have referred are of removal from service and not dismissal. At the time the Department proceedings are finalised, the question whether the person should be dismissed or removed from service is carefully considered in the light of the facts disclosed in the Departmental enquiry, the gravity of the delinquency and other circumstances that may be relevant. If, therefore, the order is in favour of removal, we must assume that Government did not consider the person concerned unsuitable for further employment, should a suitable opportunity occur after some time.

4. Shri S.S. Bajpai, one of the cases you had in mind, was taken in employment during the war. He was taken in the I & B Ministry; then his services were transferred to the Commerce Ministry to which he now belongs. I believe his appointment to the present post was made in consultation with the External Affairs Ministry. Originally, he was removed from service on account of his financial embarrassments. This is, therefore, not a case of reemployment by the present Ministry, but of his continued retention. If you have anything against him on his Paris record, I suggest that you bring it to the notice of the Commerce Minister, who I am sure will give his careful attention to whatever you may have to say on this subject. I understand from H.M. Commerce that he is being ... ...

being asked to return to India.

5. As regards Shri C.K. Desai, who is now Chief Commissioner, Cutch, the position is as follows. He was at first dismissed from service on account of his misconduct, but was given compassionate allowance. Originally dismissal precludes compassionate allowance, but since in this case, a compassionate allowanc was given, we can assume that the Public Service Commission at the time did not take such a grave view of his conduct. His case was first represented to us in 1938 by Mr. V.N. Mehta, who was then Commissioner in U.P. He suggested that the case should be reviewed because an overstrict view of the case had been taken because of Shri Desai's nationalistic views. I referred this case to Pantji, and as far as I remember, the case was taken up, but it was not possible to take it further partly because of the then European set-up and partly because we left office in 1939. When we assumed office, Mr. Desai renewed his representations, which were referred to the U.P. Government. The U.P. Government took the view that, even on the facts then proved, the punishment of dismissal was too severe and the case was really one of removal; they also increased his compassionate allowance. Later, when we were in need of a suitable officer for the post of Regional Commissioner and we could not find a man from any province, we nominated him to the post of Regional Commissioner, Kolhapur. His case was thus reviewed after about 20 years of the original order a period after which even a life convict is given a chance to rehabilitate himself. He did very good work at Kolhapur. When the appointment of Chief Commissioner, Cutch, had to be made, we asked Bombay Government whether they could suggest a suitable officer who knew Gujerati. They could not suggest any. The post of Regional Commissioner, Kolhapur, was rendered surplus by the merger of the Deccan States in Bombay. We, therefore, transferred Shri C.K. Desai to the post of Chief Commissioner, Cutch. The appointment is temporary, and we are on the look-out for a suitable man from the regular Service to replace him. In fact, we have written to Bombay Government already to suggest some suitable officer. In the meantime, you would be interested to know that the local Praja Mandal and the Cutch representative in the Constituent Assembly speak very well of his work and are quite averse to any change until the prevalent famine conditions improve.

6. Regarding N.C. Mehta, he had retired in the ordinary course after a good reputation and record of efficiency and ability. I do not know what Bakshi Tek Chand has against Mr. N.C. Mehta, but if he had anything, it was his duty to have brought it to my notice, and I could have taken note of it. You will appreciate that, unless men of standing regard it as their duty to bring to the notice of competent persons such facts and would be prepared to prove them, if it came to that stage, it is impossible to take cognizance of such matters. The question of a radio set was never brought to my notice. But if it is a fact, it is difficult to believe that there was any question of mala fides. The article seems to me of too trivial a value to tempt an officer of such seniority and standing.

7. You have then referred to the case of Shri Bhandari who was also removed from service and had to be employed by us as Assistant Regional Commissioner of Indore, in view of the same difficulty of man-power to which I have referred above. I should like to add that, previous to this, Bhandari had been employed in some other post during the war and had been well-spoken of. However, in view of his previous history, we took him in a comparatively minor post, so that we might try him. He was Assistant Regional Commissioner, Indore, for

already ... ...

already a year, when his services were dispensed with.

8. The cases in the Provinces are, of course, beyond our jurisdiction. Only one case from the Punjab has come to my notice. The Punjab Government wished to employ Mr. Brar, who was formerly in the I.P., but when given the choice between facting an enquiry and resignation, preferred to resign. The East Punjab Government proposed that he should be reemployed in the Indian Police and we turned the request down.

9. I hope I have given you all the facts about the specific instances to which you refer and also the difficulties with which we are faced and the circumstances in which the employment of persons to which you refer was virtually forced on us. I hope you will agree with me that, before you made use of these specific instances for your general remarks, you might have acquainted yourself with the facts by approaching me or the Minister concerned. The morale of the Services is much more seriously affected by sweeping remarks which some of the Members make in the House than by employment of a handful of retired or discharged persons. As I have already said above, the latter affects the promotions of a small number of Government servants who, in normal times, could not have hoped for the quick promotions which they have got, or are getting, or are likely to get. But the general remarks attacking the Services have almost a devastating effect, and I am always deluged with complaints from Government servants of various grades. I particularly remember the attack made by Mohanlal Saxena last year, when I was on my sick bed. I am glad, therefore, that you brought up the aspect of preserving the morale of Government servants in your speech.

Yours sincerely,

Shri B. Shiva Rao,
Member, Constituent Assembly,
4, Hardinge Avenue,
NEW DELHI.

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4, Hardinge Avenue,
New Delhi,
5th March, 1949.

Dear Sardarji,

Thank you very much for your letter of 4th March referring to a passage in my speech on the Budget.

Specifically I had two cases in mind in regard to which there were questions in the Assembly in the current budget session: one is Shri S.S.Bajpai (now in Paris) and the other is Shri Desai in the Sowrashtra Union. In regard to the former, he was made to leave the I.C.S. for serious irregularities, as was frankly stated by the Hon'ble Shri K.C.Neogy on the floor of the House. Reports about his doings in Paris are not such as to inspire confidence; and yet he holds a responsible position abroad under the Commerce Ministry. I know much less about Shri Desai: but he too was made to leave the I.C.S. under circumstances somewhat similar to those relating to Shri S.S.Bajpai. I made a rather strong reference to this point in my speech in the Assembly, also because I had in mind other instances to which I could not make a direct or definite reference. Last year in the August session, Bhakshi Tek Chand, for whom I have a high regard, spoke to me about Shri N.C.Mehta's activities in the Himachal Pradesh. I asked him to speak to you and to the Hon'ble Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar. I do not know if it was brought to your notice that Shri Mehta took away a radio set from the Information Ministry when he

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went to Simla to take charge of his new post last year. It was a topic of common discussion in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Only after more than one reminder coupled with the possibility of a question in the Assembly did he return the radio set. For precisely the same offence, a European Information Officer was compelled to leave the Department about ten years ago.

There are reports, which unfortunately I cannot disbelieve, regarding some high-placed officers in the Industry and Supply, Commerce and W.M.P. Ministries. There is also a general impression that the rules governing the conduct of Government servants in receiving presents are not as strictly applicable today as they were before the present Government came into power.

I think I made it quite clear in my speech that I have a high regard for several officers serving in the Secretariat. I also revealed my anxiety to see that the highest standards of integrity, merit and efficiency are maintained in regard to recruitment and promotion. On the other hand, I cannot conceal my [illegible] fears that unless something effective is done by the Cabinet, the impression will continue to prevail that there is a [illegible] laxity in the observance of these standards.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

B. Shiva Rao

4, Hardinge Avenue,
New Delhi,
March 7, 1949.

Dear Sardarji,

In continuation of my last letter to you dated 4th February I want to bring to your notice one more instance of an officer sent out of service and then taken back by the present Government. I had not the full facts of the case with me when I wrote to you three days ago. Shri Bhandari was in the Punjab I.C.S. and the Public Services Commission taking a serious view of his irregularities of conduct sent him out of I.C.S. He has now been taken back and appointed Deputy Textile Commissioner in Bombay according to my information.

There are also similar cases in some of the Provinces. For instance, in the Punjab more than one Police officers when offered the alternative of either an enquiry into his conduct or resignation chose the latter. I am told that they have now been reinstated.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

B. Shiva Rao

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister, India,
New Delhi.

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PHONE No. 7586

Doctor Dharam Prakash,

Member Constituent Assembly

WORKING PRESIDENT

A. I. Depressed Classes League

16 B, Feroz Shah Road

NEW DELHI

8th March 1949.

Most revered Sardar Sahib,

I heard the most touching words that you expressed yesterday in the Congress Party Meeting of the Members of the Indian Parliament. I was very much moved with what you said and could not restrain myself in coming to a closer touch with you and placing all my services at your disposal. I shall deem it a special favour if I shall be given an opportunity to render you some assistance and thereby render some services to the cause of Motherland.

I am myself very much distracted at the turn, the trend of events are taking in our country. The prestige of Congress is loosing fast and the unrest and uneasiness is surging every day higher and higher with no sign towards ebb. This calls for immediate action.

I addressed a letter to you about a fortnight back suggesting the cure to the ills, but due to certain circumstances, I held it back. But yesterday the pathetic appeal of yours to the Members of the Indian Parliament to co-operate with you in order to restore peace to our distracted land, and make the newly-born freedom a strong reality, I decided to pass that letter on to you for your serious consideration.

I assure you, and make bold to say, that by following the lines of action, I have chalked down in my letter, much of the evils will be banished from our Motherland and the country would get a relief for which it is so much quest.

Always at your commands, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

Dharam Prakash

(DHARAM PRAKASH)
MEMBER OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

ask him to see me again on Sunday the 13th

To

Hon'ble Shri Ballabh Bhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister,
Government of India,
NEW DELHI.

Hon'ble Shree Vallabh Bhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister
Government of India,
New Delhi.

Revered Sardar Sahib,

The present state of affairs in the country, moves me to address this letter to your honour, with an earnest appeal kindly to view the whole situation dispassionately - the situation, that demands our serious consideration and which might grow worse any day, if not checked and controlled within time. I write this to you, for in you alone, I visualise the person, gifted with the stamina to rise to the occasion and deliver goods.

The whole country is seething with disquiet and uneasiness, the like of which had never been witnessed before. The growing dearness of the commodities of daily consumption is at the root of this ever-growing uneasiness. The reactionary gangs in the country, taking advantage of the psychological moment, have all pulled their resources together to put obstacles in the way of the successful working of the schemes of planning and reconstruction, sponsored by the Government. Though belonging to various divergent political groups and owing allegiance to the different political parties with almost diametrically opposed political ideologies, they have all combined and joined hands making it a common cause to run down the congress and pull it down from its high and glorified position, and discredit it in the esteem of the people. They are all one, as far as this particular objective is before them. The situation, that has

arisen out of the existing economic depression, which they made use of, is never-the-less grave but their reaction towards it is simply deplorable. Instead of extending their helping hand by way of co-operation towards the Government, they have taken advantage of this critical moment, and created a state of anarchy at key-points in the country, with the result that the country as a whole is surcharged with an atmosphere of distrust against the Congress and the Congress regime, and disobedience and dis-loyalty, almost amounting to anarchy, against the Government.

The state of suspicion, distress and anarchy, is assuming threatening attitude every-day and our most sacred duty is to take guard against it, ere it is too late.

The public was expecting plentiful living and a peaceful life, after the termination of the terrible war, and the declaration of Independence on the 15th August, 1947, was hailed through out the length and breadth of India, with hopes of achieving the desired ends, as the reins of the Government had now come in the hands of their trusted and benevolent leaders; but their expectation soon fizzled out, for the state of affairs, instead of improving, has definitely deteriorated, inspite of the best efforts of our leaders at the helm of affairs. People find themselves crushed under the yoke of tyranny, perpetrated by the persons, who had managed to get complete control over the market, dealing with essential commodities of our everyday use. And as the time advanced, the corruption also increased and today we find that the evils of hoarding and profiteering, black-marketing and bribery and similar other corrupt practices have assumed a threatening magnitude and our contry has passed completely in the iron-grip of these evils.

We come across such cases at every place, in every walk of life.

But even this did not dis-hearten the people. They whole-heartedly supported the Government and extended their loyal co-operation in all the schemes and projects of the Government. But their dejection knew no bounds, when they found that they were bereft of their leaders. Those, who are so dear to them, were now lost to them and had assumed the role of rulers and legislators, that they were no more with them, ready to share their troubles and worries, that they have become inaccessible to them. Those who had occupied the dignified and hallowed positions in the galaxy of National heroes and to whom, they could turn with confidence for solace and comfort, in the event of National calamity, were cordoned off, from them and had been per-force snatched away from their midst by ~~b~~Bureaucratic traditions and traditional ceremonial observances. All the means of access to them were blocked.

Inspite of all this and inspite of the deplorable attempts at alienating the sympathies of public by the reactionary forces, faith of the public in our leaders was not at all shakened and their loyalty towards them is still intact. For they have got a sense to estimate correctly their sincerity and they appreciate their short-comings. They see clearly that their anxiety to make their countrymen happy is writ large on their faces, and their over-busy programmes, since morn till late in the night, at the cost and detriment to their health, is evident to them. Every bit of time, available to them, is utilised by them for the good of the public and the space is no consideration with them. If today they are in the East Punjab, tomorrow they will reach Madras and the other day their programme is booked for Calcutta and the next day after that, they are seen pacifying the disgruntled ruling Chiefs of

Kathiawar. But inspite of their sincerity and best efforts, they can not come in touch with the public and the public is kept away from them. They can see the populace before them cheering them up and listening to what they want to convey, but they cannot talk to them, cannot breathe into their ears a word of solace or comfort.

But with all this feeling of loyalty on the part of the public and the sincerity on the part of our leaders, the present difficulties, through which our country is passing, are not solved. On the contrary they have enormously increased and have enveloped the country as a whole. The disgruntled section of the public is steadily being drifted towards the reactionary forces. The communists activities are multiplying everyday and at places, the peace of the country is seriously threatened. The life and property of the masses are in danger and people are falling victims to the organised wave of Communist deceits. Their main scheme is to create the same unfortunate state of affairs in our country as well, as are created in Burma and other countries of the Far-East.

All this is to be checked and with a force, that might be termed exemplary. You have, Sir, the reputation of being a man of Iron Will and a Steel Frame. I submit, for your consideration, the following scheme, which, I am sure, will go a long way to solve the present unfortunate problem.

On a closer analysis, we find that the following are the chief reasons of discontent prevailing in the country:-

1) The ever-increasing dearness, that is eating up the vitals of our nation.

2. The ill-treatment metted out to the public specially towards those, who are helpless and poor, by some of the officials.

3) The treatment of the police officials, who have still not changed their old way of dealing with things.

4) The undesirable activities of some new entrants in Congress, with whom have collaborated some old workers as well, and who have managed to creep in and capture the key-positions in some of the Districts and Provincial Organizations. These people are bringing the Congress into disrepute, in as much as they are busy securing special favours from the Government and obtaining permits of all kinds, some in the market and selling them to the black-marketeers. At places they act as touts to those high ranking officials, who are addicted to accept bribes. All this, when comes to the ears of the Public, creates an atmosphere of perturbance, and breathes in the air of distrust and discontent in the Public.

5) The popular leaders in whom the people had confided their faith and with whom they had pledged their loyalty are snatched away from their midst, by the stroke of circumstances, and now there is none left in the field to guide them through and inspire them.

6) The Ministers and the high-ranking Government Officials have completely ignored the principles of mass-contact, thus the masses are left in utter ignorance of what the Government is doing for them.

7) Non-existance of any such Departments, which might be termed as either "Public relations Department" or the "Department for entertaining Public complaints" for Confidential enquiries.

8) The inactivity and inefficiency of "Anti-corruption Department", if it exists at all.

(3) The boldness with which the hoarders, Black-Marketers and profiteers pursue their trade; as also the ever -growing menace of bribery and corruption with no active agency to punish these perpetrators of worst of these crimes , have made the public so restless that they have begun thinking that the Govt have failed to excercise control over adverse circumstances and that there is no hope of deliverance left to the public from the clutches of the vicious circle, that has thus been formed.

There might be many more such causes that spread discontent, but these are few important, out of many.

I would now like to take up each of these items separately in- order to suggest the effective way to put an end to the corruption mentioned above serially. This would go a long way, in establishing goodwill in the masses about the Govt.;-

1) <u>The ever-growing menace of dearness, in the terrible grip of which, the country is groaning:</u>

This dearness is due to :

(a) Shortage of commodities, both agricultural and industrial; the production being below the mark.

(b) This shortage is further aggravated by the defective system of Railway Transport. You will please permit me to submit that the accute shortage of wagons is not genuine. It is not so accute as it is depicted to be. This shortage has been created by those persons, who control the movement of the rolling stock and who are addicted to the vices of bribery and corruption. This is an unpardonable sin. This can only be stopped if four or five such cases are caught red-handed and the miscreants, responsible for such acts, be awarded exemplary punishments. I can help the Govt. in catching such cases.

(c) The system of distribution of essential commodities is defective. This needs a radical change. The system at presant prevailing is that the quota of a particular commodity for one centre or one zone is entrusted to an Association of dealers, composed mainly of Capitalists of eminence. These associations are vested with full powers to distribute the commodities to other retailers at their own descrition, with the result that instead of

going down, the black-marketing has increased. In order to illustrate this, I take the distribution of iron. The association at Delhi entrusted with this work, manoeuvres the distribution in such a way that the retailers do not get the commodities which they need, they are allotted such commodities which are entirely useless to them; but they have to take the delivery of what-ever goods they are offered, for the refusal means their removal from the list of the Quota- holders. Instead of utilising the quota they get, for manufacturing purposes for which they find the material quite unsuited, they have no other option left, but to sell it off immediately to some one and the agents or the dalals of the members of the association mentioned above, are always near at hand to purchase those things. They are then removed to such under-ground stores, from where they could easily be passed on to the blackmarketers. I have got documentary evidence at my disposal in support of my above allegations that I can produce, if a chance be given to me by your honour.

I assure you I shall help the Govt to unearth the [illegible] of ~~iron-holders~~ iron-hoarders and black-marketers in India with its inter-provincial connections. This is high time to take such a bold ~~act~~ step. If exemplary punishment will be awarded to them in case their guilt is established, it will go a long way to minimise this condemned evil practice.

(1) The scarcity of food-grains and other essential commodities, needed for the very existance of human-beings, is not so much genuine as it is created. It has been noticed that the spirit of hoarding has taken such a universal shape that the hoarders do not mind if by their such acts the commodities hoarded are perished or destroyed for that would help the prices to go up and would enrich their pockets.

In this connection, my submission is, that such acts (of creating scarcity by distroying food-grains) be classed as the crime of worst nature and therefore should meet either with capital punishment or some other such punishment that might serve as an eye-opener to others.

2) <u>The ever-increasing mis-behaviour of the public servants and of the police, specially to-wards the poor and to-wards those, who are lowly placed:-</u>

This needs an immediate check for unless this is done, we cannot win the good-will of the public. The public should feel that they have got Swarajya. This cannot be done, unless they see appreciable change in the behaviour of the bureaucratic machinery. In order to affect this, it is necessary that public complaint offices be opened everywhere and the complaints lodged by the people against the behaviour of the public-servants be enquired into.

(3) Regarding the mal-practices of the so-called Congress-men, who abuse their position and office and help in perpetuating the afore-said vices:

This department, about which I have mentioned above, be instructed to keep a strong eye over the activities of such suspected persons, irrespective of their status and position in the society and in the Government. They should be treated as ordinary criminals, if they are found to be culprits of such acts, as alleged against them, and should be awarded punishments of ~~xxxixx~~ penious nature. The news of these punishments should be given wide publicity in order to convince the masses of the sincerity of the Government and thus gain their confidence and set an example for others to serve as an eye-opener.

(4) Regarding the access, which is denied to the public, to the leaders, who have accepted Ministerial Offices at the Centre and in the Provinces:-

The Ministers, who ~~are~~ were once the popular leaders of the masses and who are still loved and respected, should not antagonise the public by shutting their doors against them. They can contact the public in two ways:-

(a) By receiving the deputations of the public at the appointed time and hour.

(b) By appointing Deputies (from amongst the leaders of the Congress) to receive individual visitors on their behalf and dispose off their cases after thorough enquiries.

People should feel that their leaders are not cordoned off nor they are changed with the change of time. They still possess the same feelings and love for them.

(5) The necessity of mass- contact programme:-

This is ~~the~~ high time for it. I suggest that under the Home Ministry a public relations Department be immediately opened, and be placed either under a State Minister or a Deputy Minister, which will execute the following work:-

(a) Mass Contact.

(b) Receiving Complaints.

(c) Conducting Secret Enquiries, issuing search warrants and warrants of arrests, through their own officers,

who should be invested with the powers of high ranking Military or police officials.

(d) Doing publicity on a wider scale about the punishments meted out to the people, found guilty of corruption bribery, black- marketting and profiteering.

(e) To enquire into the conduct of high officials against whom the charges of bribery and corruption are brought by lawful means against them in order to catch them red- handed.

(f) The relief to Harijans be also entrusted to this Department because unfortunately this society has been suffering most at the hands of high ranking officers, whose sympathy or support they cannot buy!

(g) This Department should organize propaganda and publicity on a wider scale. It should not depend upon the Department of Information and Broadcasting for this work. It should enlist persons of eminence who would like to place their services at the disposal of the Government and organise their lecturing tours in the country. These people will take to the masses the message of good- will and would enlist their complaints. They will have access to places seeing things with their own eyes, contacting masses and reading the actual state of affairs in different parts of the country and would furnish first hand report, at once reliable and trust-worthy, to be placed before your honour.

(h) Complaints against the management of the hospitals, work-houses, factories, printing presses, School and colleges, maternity homes and all such public places which are directly connected with the masses be thoroughly enquired into and be remedied.

(i) To check corruption prevalant in the Railway Department and Military Department, especially in the offices of Disposals and M.E.S. To check corruption prevalant in the board of Film Censors at Bombay and Calcutta.

(j) To check the growing practice of recruiting employees in the Government Departments and Government aided institutions on the basis of Sectarianism, Communalism or Provincialism.

(k) To check and put an effective stop to the ever-growing tendencies of making it impossible for the poorer classes to get accommodation in the cities without "Pugri", also to check tendency towards inflation in house-rents and other things.

(l) To lay traps against the executive Officers and other

important offices of the Municipal Boards and Improvement Trusts in various parts of the country, where there is organised loot and permanent obstacles in the way of poorer people in getting plots of lands for the construction of their huts.

(m) To organize traps and detect ill-handed people found guilty of bribery and corruption in the much abused Deptts. of Income-Tax, Rationing, Supply, Engineering, Police and Registration.

(n) To organize traps against the officers of the Anti-Corruption Department itself.

(o) To keep an eye over the Anti-Government, Anti-social and Anti-National activities of the re-actionary groups especially the Communists and Revolutionary Communists who are engaged actively in sabotaging the efforts of the Government in the way of National Planning and Production.

(p) To keep a strict eye over all the fifth-column activities of persons interested in other nationalities.

This is a big task and I am aware of the facts that it would be very hard on you, especially in view of the great work that you have to do and the labour you have to put in, in the daily discharge of your duties as the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister-in-Charge of Native States and Home Affairs.

The political situation of the country demands that the peace should be restored forthwith, without any loss of time. I am fully confident that your honour will find a solution to the existing ills in the above-mentioned paragraphs of this confidential document.

I place my humble services at your command and assure you, my beloved commrade, that I will do my utmost to lessen your worries and bring peace to this distracted land of ours by meeting the public complaints to their hearts' content and giving them the a square deal.

I am in possession of some such facts, which will go a long way in putting a stop to the malpractices of bribery and corruption and hoarding and profiteering prevelant in the town of Delhi. P.T.O.

If you will give me some time, I shall place all those

facts before you, along-with the documentary proofs in my possession and it would be a sensational find, for this newly created Department.

Awaiting your honour's further instructions,

Yours fraternally,

Dharam Prakash

(DHARAM PRAKASH)
MEMBER OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

Dated 18th February,'48.

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A copy of this may be sent to Secy. Home/States for information, and return PP.

~~Supdt. Pers.Sec.~~

Copies sent to Secy. Home/States.

S.S.

12.3.49

Shri M. C. Bhatt.

CONFIDENTIAL

D.O.No. 27/49-GCW

15, Council House,
New Delhi
9th March 1949.

My dear Sardarji

Enclosed herewith you will find a circular which I have sent round to all the members of our Party. This is just for your information.

Yours sincerely,

S. N. Sinha.

(Satya Narayan Sinha)

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai J.Patel,

SECRETARIAT OF THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP

CONFIDENTIAL

D.O.NO. 27/49-GCW

15, Council House,

New Delhi, the 8th March, 1949.

My dear friend,

It has been noticed that serious allegations are made by the Hon'ble Members against the conduct of the officials of the Government and Statements are usually made both on the floor of the House and elsewhere that cases of corruption, bribery, nepotism and maladministration have come to their notice. Sometimes such statements are made on mere hearsay or on incomplete data or on the information supplied by interested parties, with the result that unnecessary aspertions are cast on the Government and the conduct of the Government officials concerned is brought into disrepute. Such inaccurate and general statements also effect the prestige of Parliament, confuse Public opinion, lower the efficiency of the administration and place the Government in an awkward position. It must be borne in mind that since Independence has been gained, Parliament is the supreme authority in the land and its prestige and authority must be supported by sound conventions. Such a position naturally places upon the Honourable Members great responsibilities and care has to be taken that whatever their intentions in the matter of correcting the administration may be, effect is properly given to them by their actions both within Parliament and elsewhere. It is of the utmost importance that the prestige of the Parliament is not lowered and the tone of the administration is also corrected and improved.

2. In countries where Parliamentary institutions are in force, the Government Chief Whip acts as the "normal channel" between the Government and the members of the party. He is a confidant of the Government and the members of the Party and it is through him that "matters of controversy" between the Government and the members of the party are resolved. With a view to establish such practices in India, it is necessary that Honourable Members who have come to know of cases of fraud, corruption, bribery, maladministration,

Contd.....2..

nepotism etc., in administration should ascertain complete and correct facts as far as possible and write to the Government Chief Whip giving full details, marking their letters "Confidential" The Government Chief Whip will get into touch with the particular Ministry concerned with the matter and ascertain the facts as known to the Ministry. Thereafter the Government Chief Whip will consider in consultation with the Members as to what further action is desirable in the circumstances of the case. If the matter is of sufficient importance it can be discussed in the party and further course of action determined.

3. If the procedure as indicated above is followed it would greatly enhance the prestige of Parliament with a view to secure the redress of the legitimate grievances of the public expressed through the Hon'ble Members. It would also result in the establishment of a sound convention that statements made in the House are taken serious notice by the Government and not lightly passed over. This procedure will also place on a proper footing the relations between the party and the administration as a whole.

Yours sincerely,

S. N. Sinha.
Government Chief Whip.

TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS PARTY IN THE C.A.(LEGISLATIVE)

BAJAJ*

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New Delhi,
4th March 1949.

My dear Shiv Rao,

Yesterday during the course of your speech in Assembly, you referred to men who have been thrown out for proved misdemeanour by the findings of the Public Service Commission having been brought back and given responsible position and the devastating effect of this on the morale of thousands of people working in the Secretariat. I should like to know what are the specific cases which you have in mind, so that I may look into them and see what can be done about it.

Yours sincerely,

Shri B.Shiv Rao,
Member,
Constituent Assembly,
New Delhi

M

Pandit Kunzru: (12-25 p.m.)

** ** **

There are certain elements indeed that might tend somewhat to increase rather than reduce the defence expenditure. The first question I should like to refer is the fact that an Army is maintained by the Indian states at the present time. Sardar Patel has done a magnificent piece of work in integrating the States with India. It is a work for which he will be remembered for ever in Indian history. The vigour and speed with which he has dealt with matters relating to the future of the States deserve our admiration and gratitude in the fullest measure. I hope, Sir, that he will complete his work by making the first-class troops maintained by the Indian States an integral part of the Indian Army. and If this happens, as I hope it will before long, it is possible that the expenditure on the army instead of going down might go up a little.

Mr. B.Shiva Rao: 125

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Anyone who goes round the different Ministries at the present moment would be struck with one fact, and that is the state of serious deterioration, both in the quality and the quantity of work done in the Secretariat. There are many reasons for this, but I think the situation is much more serious than the House has realised. I know that several officers, senior officers of ability, experience and integrity, are only looking forward to the time when they can retire from the Government of India and I am afraid it is true that there has been a tendency on the part of more than one Ministry to set at naught the established practices in regard to the recruitment and promotion of people in the Secretariat. Men who have been thrown out for proved misdemeanour by the findings of the Public Service Commission have been brought back and given responsible position, and the effect of all this is devastating on the morale of thousands of people who are working in the Secretariat, and that is an aspect of the problem which I think members of the Cabinet would do well to ponder over.

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MR. B.Shiva Rao (contd.)

(Suggesting re-distribution of portfolios of the Cabinet, he said) Leading members of the Cabinet, in particular the Prime Minister, should release themselves as much as possible from the routine problems of administration in order that they may concentrate on the co-ordination of work inside the Government and outside. That, I think, is a point which deserves the attention of Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar. It seems to me that the time has arrived from the separation of Works from Mines & Power. That was a recommendation of the Coalfields Cte. two or three years ago, of which the Commerce Minister was a distinguished member. The report of the Coalfields Cte argued in a convincing manner a case for the separation of Works from Mines & Power, including in the latter Coal, Oils, Electricity, etc.

** ** **

So far as the Ministry of [illegible] Relief & Rehabilitation is concerned, I think it is psychologically wrong and financially ruinous to let the Ministry continue in its present state. I would rather combine it with the Resettlement Directorate of the Labour Ministry and call it by a different name, The Ministry of Social Welfare or some name of that kind, because I think it is wrong to perpetuate the term Refugee for all time.

** ** **

The present Governments, both at the Centre and in the Provinces, came into power after an era of preaching disaffection against the established order. On the other hand, our present leaders have held out great hopes of a speedy betterment, economic betterment, of the people on the achievement of independence. If we are frank with ourselves, we must admit that while, on the one hand, the mentality of criticism of the Government persists, there is also widespread discontent and disappointment [illegible] that the higher standards of life which have been promised do not seem to be round the corner, and I feel that these subversive influences are doing everything possible to exploit the discontent for their own ends. The point to remember is that we cannot think of any better set of men to take charge of the administration

of this country, whether at the Centre or in the provinces, and if the confidence of the masses in the present administration is rudely shaken, the alternative is not another set of men to take their places, but it is complete loss of faith not only in this Government but in all constituted governments.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: (U.P.General): Sir, this is an occasion when the voice of the people as it is - it may be sometimes even a crude form - must be expressed so that the Ministers, those who have the power of administration in their hands, may know how the people of the country are reacting to their Governmental activities. Therefore I have chosen not to go deep into the figures and not repeat the arguments which have already been put forward by my Honourable friends on either side. I have to submit only one thing with regard to the budget figures and it is that as I view it the Honourable Minister for Finance himself has confessed that he got 84 crores more than we sanctioned. The whole of this amount ought to have been shown as surplus. This was more than the incidence we had sanctioned. In fact the taxes were there by chance or by whatever means - not by unfair means - because there were more exports or imports. He got more money which means the country was taxed to the extent of 84 crores more than we sanctioned last year. This money should have gone towards savings because we never sanctioned the expenditure of that extra money he got and this money has been spent and some more has been spent. There are reasons for that which he has given. There were so many problems - we had to fight our wars in Kashmir and then again rehabilitation - all this expenditure had to be incurred but we don't want to have this expenditure for good. If this 84 crores were extraordinary we don't want this to be perpetuated. So this extraordinary expenditure should not have gone into the scheduled expenditure. Most of the money spent last year even for items which were only temporary goes into the permanent budget just like the practice in the Secretariat to appoint a man temporarily in the first year and confirming him the next year. What I wanted to tell the Honourable Minister is once the budget gets

inflated, it goes on at the same rate. All the taxes - whether it is by excise, income tax or customs or post card - all go to the poor. The country is being very badly taxed. The reaction of the people is not like what my friend expects. The money has ~~xx~~ not gone into the villages. In fact the villagers are dissatisfied. The country has got frustrated and the basic complaint is scarcity of foodstuffs. There are so many other things but the tax goes far. Indirect taxes hit everybody equally. Tax on salt hits all equally. Cloth you sanction everyone say 10 yards and the tax hits all equally, rich and the poor. If you reduce the incometax, you give benefit to the rich but then the poor are equally taxed with the rich which is not fair. Same is the case with regard to the cloth. It is very good for Mr. Kidwai to say that he will fly the post cards but the card reaches in nine days. It is no use telling the villager that his card will be flown in the air. This is bad and in selecting the items of taxation you must also take note as to whether it will react on the psychology of the people. It is not only that we want to tax but we also want to tax the people so that the people may not mind it. If you have come out with a proposal that cards which fly for Mr. Kurshed Lal or his boss Mr. Kidwai will have more postage, I would not mind. Why tax me? I want to write only to a village a long way off and I don't mind how it reaches. I don't want to dilate on this.

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Shri Mahavir Tyagi (contd):- The Congress party, the biggest party in the country has contributed its best to the Government. Therefore the country has given its best to the administration, but still it looks as if there is not necessary vision and perspective on the part of the government. We have our two big leaders sitting today on the treasury benches, and they have done a lot to raise the prestige of our country. It is only due to them that we have come up so far and that we have won the war - our battle for freedom. We have lost Gandhiji too. People at large were looking forward to the day when their Congress leaders would be there to put forward their grievances and redress their wrongs. But unfortunately we have no opposition in the country now. Suppose there is something wrong in Pandit Jawaharlal's administration, where are the people to go to? There is now no equally important party in the country to which they can go. They cannot go to any such party so that the voters may give a threat to Pandit Jawaharlal and say, either agree to our demands or we will throw you out. There is no Mahatma Gandhi either to whom they could take their complaints. We as juniors cannot sit on judgment over our seniors. The people, therefore, feel frustrated, because the Congress has contributed its best to the Government, and there is no effective opposition. People at large are without any vocal capacity. They cannot express themselves. The success of the Government does not depend on the Budget only. The real success lies in the street. The index of their success is to be found among the people. If we are truly democratic, we should see that the people are rallying round us. Let us now see if we have the people rallying round us. Do we do that, or do we keep them off? According to my judgment, I am afraid, we have failed, judged by this standard. This is so, not

because we have not done enough, but because of other reasons. Indeed, we have done too much. In fact the gains which Pandit Jawaharlal has got for us in foreign lands are exceptional. In such a short time we have become a real nation and have found a place on the map of the world. Sardar Patel, our Deputy Prime Minister has really gained too much. These two leaders are earning too much for the nation and it would seem as if the nation is not in a position to consume their earnings every year. But may I inform both these leaders that your publicity department has absolutely failed. This department has not made the people realise your achievements, how great and important these achievements are. The publicity department has been an absolute failure because the public at large do not really appreciate what you have achieved for them. And therefore they are full of criticism. The public is very critical. May be, it is because of scarcity all round. May be because people do not get enough to eat, and so they are critical. But it is also your outlook to let them have enough to eat.

Now that the Congress has come into power, the people want to have access to the Ministers, at least through the proper channels. But this is not found possible because of red-tapism and also because of the 'steel-frame'. The steel-frame, instead of remaining a frame, has now become a steel ceiling. Therefore freedom is not able to filter through down to the common people. The old red-tapism is still there, and it has not been controlled at all. The Secretariat people are very clever people. They are experienced persons getting very big salaries. They come before you and talk nice things and they really want to behave as the courtiers did to

King Canute. They tell you that this is necessary for respectability, that is necessary for dignity and this and that. They do not really do the work that is expected of them. First of all, they get too much pay, about Rs.1,000 more here than they would have got in other places. One Minister told me that they are on contractual pay and so their pay cannot be reduced. But I cannot understand the position. If in the Province, the officer would be only a Commissioner on Rs.3,000/- but here in the Secretariat, he gets Rs.1,000 more as extra. In the olden times when the Britishers were here, they organised a sort of committee in the Secretariat, to control the staff and establishment, and it was with a view to see that the posts of vantage and importance all went to Europeans. The same thing is going on even now, I am told. Whether that is true or not, it is for the Minister to say. When Mr. Gopalaswamy Ayyangar was without any portfolio, he was deputed or requested by the Prime Minister to go into the Secretariat and look into the whole organisation and see if he could effect any retrenchment. I understand Mr. Ayyangar made a number of proposals. And I am also told that when the Honourable Minister made his report, he said that there are two or three die-hard Secretaries of the Secretariat, and unless they are turned out, the Secretariat cannot improve.

The HONOURABLE SHRI N. GOPALASWAMY AYYANGAR: May I intervene? I am afraid what the Honourable Member has been telling the House is absolutely without any foundation. I have made no report yet.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: I see. Somehow or other things have filtered out like that. (Laughter).

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU (PRIME MINISTER): The remark just made by the speaker that somehow things filtered out, I think, deserves some notice in this House. Many times things are said here which have no foundation at all; and such statements which have no basis or foundation are not in keeping with the dignity of the House. Honourable Members should not make suggestions or insinuations which have no foundation whatever.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This has often been stated on the floor of the House. As the Prime Minister said, such remarks do not add to the dignity of the House. Therefore, before making any observations, Honourable Members will kindly verify if they have any basis or foundation for their observations. If it is only a small margin of difference, there is no harm, but if it is wholly without any foundation, it does not add to the dignity of the House.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: Sir, my request was only to make an enquiry, whether such things are true or not. If they are all baseless, it is all the better, because hereafter nobody need talk about them. I have, indeed helped the Prime Minister in giving him a chance to contradict these rumours. So he must be thankful to me rather than be angry with me.

Then, Sir, there was an Economy Committee set up. It made certain recommendations, but the Secretaries would not agree to accept them. The Secretaries are too big. I hope the Ministers concerned will agree to look into the matter, and see if the whole Secretariat does not require a regular and drastic overhauling. I understand there is a Committee in the Secretariat consisting of some Secretaries, called Establishment Committee, and without the sanction of this committee, no transfers can be effected. Previously a Secretary

after spending some three years here, used to go back to his Province. But at present they are kept on here. And as I said, this Establishment Committee controls all transfers and postings. I do not commit my previous mistake of mentioning the name of the Minister, but I understand that one Minister made a request that such and such man should be given to him, and this Committee refused to do so. Sir, it is this Committee which really holds the key of the whole organisation. It is just like the old days when the British were here. I therefore say that this should be changed and in the Staff or Establishment Committee there must be one or two Ministers to see to it that positions of vantage do not go to undesirable persons.

And then, there is lot of nepotism in the Secretariat, and I wish the Ministers would make enquiries from every one of their officers as to how many of their relations are employed there. You will find that a whole family is in the Secretariat. There are three sisters and three husbands and all the host of their relations are in the Secretariat - a whole family-in-law.

Therefore, Sir, firstly, we must look into the organisation of the Secretariat. I have a lot more to say, but the time is up and I shall do so during the cut motions. I am sorry I could not have my full say.

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135

CONGRESS PARTY IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY: (LEGISLATIVE)

24, Council House,
New Delhi.

Camp Bhopal. (On Leave.)
C/O Head Post Office,
18th January, 49.

I beg to enclose herewith full text of a letter received from Sjt. B. Shiva Rao, suggesting modifications in the presentation of the General Budget and its subsequent disposal. Sjt. M.A. Ayyengar left instructions with me to bring this subject for discussion at the Party Meeting scheduled for 31st January, 1949, at 3 p.m. in the Constitution House.

With respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,

Rajkumari

The Hon'ble Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,
Leader of the Congress Party in the C. Assembly,
Prime Minister's House,
New Delhi.

Copy to :-

1. Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
   Dy: Leader of the Congress Party in the C.A.,
2. Hon'ble Dr. John Mithai,
   Finance Minister Govt. of India,
3. Hon'ble Shri N. Gopala Swami Ayyengar,
4. Hon'ble Shri K. Santhanam,
5. Hon'ble Shri G.V. Mavlankar,
6. Hon'ble Shri S.N. Sinha,
7. Hon'ble Shri Mohanlal, Saksena.,
8. Shri M.A. Ayyengar,
9. Professor N.G. Ranga,
10. Shri B. Shiva Rao,
11. Shri Bharagvir, I.C.S.,
12. Shri M.N. Kaul,
13. Office of the Congress Party in the C.A. (Legislative).

4, Hardinge Avenue,
New Delhi,
3rd January, 1949.

Dear Shri Ananthasayanam,

I would be glad if you will place before an early meeting of the Party Executive the proposal which I had made to you even during the last budget session of the Assembly. The present practice, both of the introduction of the budget by the Finance Minister and of its subsequent discussions, we have inherited from the past. I do not feel that we get a really effective review of the administration in all its aspects by thus adhering to it.

The time has come, in my opinion, for introducing a change which I believe would be in accordance with Parliamentary practice. Let the Finance Minister make a general speech as he now does and formally introduce the budget. Let us maintain the general discussion stage. But thereafter I would suggest that each member of the Cabinet places the estimates of expenditure of his own Ministry before the Assembly and in doing so makes a comprehensive statement giving the main features of the administration of his ministry during the year and focussing attention on what he considers to be its most important features. Let us have at least two days for each of the following Ministers: Defence, External Affairs, Food and Agriculture, Industry & Supplies, and Commerce. One day should suffice for Home, States, Communications, Education, Health, Information and Broadcasting etc.

I am assuming that the Railway Budget will be presented separately as hitherto and precede the introduction of the general budget. The actual allotment of days to each of the Ministries is only a suggestion of

mine and will necessarily have to be discussed not only with the Party Executive but with the Speaker of the House and of course the Finance Minister.

I hope you will take steps to have this matter discussed at an early meeting of the Party Executive.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- B. Shiva Rao.

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CONGRESS PARTY IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY: (LEGISLATIVE)

24, Council House,
New Delhi.
Camp Bhopal, (On Leave).
C/O Head Post Office,
16th January, 49.

VSC 22-1

Note

During the Autumn session of the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) Shri B. Shiva Rao had written to us suggesting the placing of two complete sets of replies to the questions in the lobby of the Assembly for the exclusive use of the members. The matter was discussed both by the Executive Committee and the General-body of the Congress Party but due to other important matters, especially the question of inflation, no decision was reached. Shri B. Shiva Rao has informed me that he still wants to persue the matter and as such I beg to forward herewith the full text of his letter dated 7th August, 1948.

With respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,

Lajpatrai

The Hon'ble Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,
Leader of the Congress Party in the C.A.(Legislative)
Prime Minister's House,
New Delhi.

Copy to :-

1. Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
   Dy: Leader of the Congress Party in the C.A.,
2. Hon'ble Shri G.V. Mavlankar,
3. Hon'ble Sat Narain Sinha,
4. Hon'ble Shri Mohanlal Saksena,
5. Shri. M. A. Ayyengar,
6. Professor N.G. Ranga,
7. Shri Dharamvir, I.C.S.,
8. Shri B. Shiva Rao,
9. Shri M.N. Kaul,
10. Office of the Congress Party in the C.A.(Legislative)

139

4 Hardinge Avenue,
New Delhi, 7th August, 48.

Dear Friend,

I would like you to take up the following proposal at the next meeting of the Executive of the Congress Party for suitable action, if the party endorses my suggestion.

One or two complete sets of replies to questions are placed in the press room about half an hour before the commencement of the morning session each day. It should not therefore be difficult to provide two more sets of such replies to be placed in the lobby of the Assembly for the exclusive use of the members.

One set, in my opinion, should be left on a table in the lobby for all members to read before the commencement of the day's work. The other set should be broken up and the appropriate replies sent to those members who have questions on the agenda paper for the day.

This arrangement will not be completely satisfactory, since one set for general use may be regarded utterly inadequate. If two sets for general use could be made available, I should certainly ask for them. But I am suggesting only two sets altogether because of the practical difficulty in making more than 5 or 6 copies at a time.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- B. Shiva Rao.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, M.C.A.,
25, Canning Lane,
NEW DELHI.

COPY.

140

1 Aurangzeb Road
New Delhi, 21.2.1949.

To

The Hon'ble the Speaker,
Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative),
NEW DELHI.

Sir,

On account of urgent public business, I regret I have to absent myself from the House from the 21st February to 1st March 1949. I would be grateful if, during my absence, you could kindly permit the Hon'ble Sri. Satyanarain Sinha, Minister of State and Chief Whip, to reply to questions on my behalf.

Yours faithfully,

Minister for Home Affairs
and States.

V.

1 Aurangazeb Road,
New Delhi, 14.2.49.

141

My dear Satyanarain Babu,

With reference to our discussion this morning, I am sending herewith a copy of the Question to be put by Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri in regard to the strictures passed by the Special Judge on the Police investigation.

Yours sincerely,

(V.SHANKAR).

The Hon. Shri. Satyanarain Sinha,
Government Chief Whip,
Council House, New Delhi.

V.

142

QUESTION FOR THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA
(LEGISLATIVE).

Starred D. No. 60.

Notice was received on the 11.2.1949.

Notice of admission to be sent out on the 16.2.1949.

Ministry to which the day has been allotted HOME AFFAIRS

The question will, if admitted, be put down for the meeting on the: 22.2.1949.

* SHRI ROHINI KUMAR CHAUDHARI:- (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to stage whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the following remarks made by the Special Judge in the Judgment delivered against Nathuram Godse and others, convicting them for the murder of Mahatma Gandhi:-

"I may bring to the notice of the Central Government the slackness of the police in the investigation of the case during the period between January 20, 1948 and January 30, 1948."

"Delhi Police had obtained a detailed statement from Madanlal K. Pahwa soon after his arrest on January 20. Bombay Police had also been given a statement made by Dr. J.C. Jain to Mr. Morarji Desai on January 21."

"Delhi Police and Bombay police had contacted each other soon after these two statements had been made. Yet the police miserably failed to derive any advantage from these two statements".

"Had the slightest keenness been shown in the investigation of the case at that stage, the tragedy probably could have been averted". ?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to take any action against the Delhi Police for their not showing the slightest keenness to the investigation of the case between 20th January 1948 and 30th January 1948?

No.126-P.M.

New Delhi,
February 11, 1948.

Dear Satyanarain,

You gave me the other day a copy of a printed paper which had been circulated to members of the Assembly. This paper contained what was alleged to be an opinion of the Governor General on the Hindu Code Bill. I communicated this to the Governor General and this is the reply that I have received:-

"Secret. Your letter of tenth February about Hindu Code Bill. The printed paper is a total fraud. I have said none of the things stated therein either separately or as a whole on any occasion, public or private. You are free to make this clear in a Press statement or otherwise and I think you should do it. The Committee whose name is printed at bottom of leaflet should be asked to furnish materials on which they have printed my so-called opinion and proceeded against. My lawyer tells me that it is punishable as a fraud under the Penal Code."

In view of what the Governor General suggests, I am communicating this telegram to the Law Minister for such action as he may consider necessary. I suggest that you might consult the Hon'ble the Speaker on the subject also. In any event this distribution of papers in the Assembly is reprehensible.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- J. Nehru.

The Hon'ble
Shri Satyanarain Sinha,
Government Chief Whip.

Copy to: The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
1, Aurangzeb Road,
New Delhi.

144

At my suggestion the Chief Whip is issuing a contradiction to the Press immediately. I am prepared to answer a short notice question, but I am going away to Gujrat tomorrow morning and shall only return on the 14th noon. I can therefore only answer it on the 15th morning. If the Deputy Prime Minister is agreeable he can answer it sooner.

Sd. J. Nehru,
11.2.49.

Relevant file is placed below. P.M. would like Deputy Prime Minister to answer it on Monday morning.

Sd. M.O. Mathai,
12/2.

Would Shri Satyanarayan Sinha please take these papers to the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister and take his instructions as suggested by P.M. to answer this question on Monday?

Sd. A.V. Pai,
12.2.1949.

Hon. Shri Satyanarain Sinha,
P.M.Sectt.U.O.No.D/8/1335, dated 12.2.1949.

H.M. will reply to the short notice question on Monday the 14th February 1949. A copy of his reply is placed below. I am informing the Legislative Assembly Office separately with reference to their unofficial reference.

(V. Shankar)
P.S. to H.M.12.2.49.

P.P.S. to H.P.M.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION.

145

Diary No. 25.
Shri L.K. Bharathi:

Will the Hon'ble the Prime Ministerbe pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a printed appeal from the All-India Anti-Hindu Code Committee, Calcutta, received by the Hon'ble members of the House, containing what purports to be the "opinion" of His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari, Governor-General of India, against the Hindu Code Bill; and

(b) whether the whole or any part of the said opinion was made by H.E. Sri C. Rajagopalachari, at any time?

Sd. L.K. Bharati,
M.C.A.

May be admitted with short notice, if H.P.M. is prepared to accept short notice.

Sd. M.N. Kaul,
11.2.49

H.S.(Residence)

Sd. G.V.M(avlankar)
11/2

The Hon. Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.
L.A.D. U.O.No.S.N.Q.25 Dated 11.2.1949.

The Hon'ble the Deputy Prime Minister will reply to the question on Monday the 14th February.

Sd. V. Shankar,
12.2.1949.
Private Secretary.

Constituent Assembly (Leg.) (Mr. M.N.Kaul)

146

o/c
Sent to Secy
State with
immediate slip
12/2/49

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION.

DIARY NO. 24.

CHAUDHURI RANBIR SINGH: (a) Will the Hon'ble Minister of States be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the fact that during the last fortnight, two kisans have been murdered and nine hamlets in village 'chirduri' Tehsil 'Bilara', the whole village of 'Bhadwase' of Tehsil 'Merta' and some 'Dhanies' of village 'Derasae' of Jodhpur State on the Pakistan border have been looted and burnt?

(b) Are Government aware that these incidents have occurred with the connivance of Jodhpur State forces?

(c) If the answer to part(a) above is in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to check such incidents?

Please see Chaudhuri Ranbir Singh's letter giving short notice of the above question.

The Member has not given any reasons for putting his question at short notice.

It appears from part (a) that the villages were looted and burnt by Pakistan forces.

May be admitted as amended if the Hon'ble Minister of States accepts short notice, in which case he may be requested kindly to state when he proposes to answer the question.

Itd.11.2.49.

May be admitted in the ordinary course omitting part (b)

Sd. M.N. Kaul,
11.2.49.

Should be admitted as short notice question omitting (b).

Itd. G.V.M.
11.2.

The Hon.Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
L.A.D. U.O.No.S.N.Q.24/49-A, dated 11.2.49.

H.M. will answer the short notice question on the 17th February.

Sd. V. Shankar,
12.2.1949.
Private Secretary.

Constituent Assembly (Leg)(Mr. M.N.Kaul)

147

24.

(a) Will the Hon'ble Minister of States be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the fact that in the last week of this month, two kisans have been murdered , nine hamlets in village 'Chirduri' Tehsil 'Bilara', the whole village of 'Bhadwara' Tehsil 'Merta' some 'Dhanies' of village 'Derasar' of Jodhpur State on the Pakistan border have been looted and burnt?

(b) Is it also true that these incident occurred in connivance of Jodhpur State forces, which is comprised of one community only?

(c) If the answers to parts above are in the affirmative, what steps do Government propose to take to check such incidents?

Ranbir Singh,
Chaudhuri,
Member, Constituent Assembly.

SECRETARIAT OF THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP. 148

.....

Room No.20,
Council House,
New Delhi, the 5th February, 1949.

My dear Sardar Sahib

A suggestion was recently made that as soon as a demand is proposed from the Chair the Minister to whose Ministry the demand relates should make an opening speech giving an account of the activities of his Ministry and thereafter the discussion should proceed in the normal way. This suggestion has been examined and there is a consensus of opinion that it would be better if instead of making a speech in the Assembly, a report regarding the work of each Ministry with its salient activities during the course of the year is furnished along with the budget papers.

These reports on the work of various Ministries will give the necessary information and useful background together with a detailed idea of the problems of each Ministry to members before they formulate subjects for discussion in the shape of ordinary cut motions.

It is, therefore, necessary that each Ministry should take up the preparation of this report as urgently as possible so that it is available to members with the budget papers. It is understood that some information is collected each year by Ministries for the use of the Honourable the Finance Minister in connection with the preparation of his Budget speech.

Yours sincerely,

Lalji Nayan Singh

To

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai J.Patel,
Minister in charge of Home Affairs and States.

DH., -25.

149

New Delhi,
15th February 1949.

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your letter of the 14th February 1949 regarding the commutation of sentence of Godse. I am sure you will appreciate that no body knows better than myself what Gandhiji would expect me to do in the matter. You can, therefore, leave the matter at that.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad,
M.C.A.
8 Ferozshah Road,
New Delhi.

M

8 Firozshah Road
New Delhi 15
14. 2. 49.

My dear sardarji,

Probably Godse will not submit any Petition for mercy. It will be befitting Gandhiji's memory To pardon this scoundrel along with the others who have been sentenced. They should be forcibly made to settle down in the Andamans as freemen. I do not know how far my suggestion is practicable or logical.

Always at your service

Yours sincerely
Brajeshwar Prasad
M. C. A.

A note to this effect has been sent to Sec. States & Home

151

SECRETARIAT OF THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP.

No. 10/49-G.C.W.

Room No.20,
Council House,
New Delhi, the 10th February, 1949.

My dear Sardarji

In continuation of my D.O. letter dated 5th February, 1949, the Honourable the Prime Minister has decided that besides circulating the reports reviewing the administration of each Ministry to the members, the Minister concerned should make an opening speech indicating briefly the activities of his Ministry as soon as a demand for grant is proposed from the Chair. It is also desirable that the reports should give an indication of the policy and proposals for the coming year.

2. It has also been decided that as far as possible Ministers should be present in the House on the days when general discussion on General Budget is proceeding.

3. It is requested that 350 copies of the report may be forwarded sufficiently in time to the Legislative Assembly Department who will circulate it to the members two days in advance of the date on which voting on Demand for Grants will commence.

Yours sincerely,
Satyanarayan Sinha

To

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai J. Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister in charge of
Home Affairs and States.

J.L. -40.

152

15, Council House,
New Delhi,
5th February 1949.

My dear Shankarji,

I am herewith sending a copy of list of Members of the Constituent Assembly (Legislative).

Yours sincerely,

Satya Nayan

V.Shankar,Esq., ICS.,
Private Secretary to
the Deputy Prime Minister,
Council House,
New Delhi.

MADRAS

~~Shri M.Ananthasayanam Ayyangar~~

~~Shri T.T.Krishnamachari~~

Shri L.Krishnaswami Bharathi

Shri M.Tirumala Rao

Dr.B.Pattabhi Sitaramayya

Shri T.A.Ramalingam Chettiar

Shri Ramnath Goenka

~~Prof. N.G.Ranga~~

Shri U.Srinivasa Mallayya

BOMBAY

Shrimati Hansa Mehta

Shri Kanayalal Nanabhai Desai

Shri Khandubhai K.Desai

Shri H.P.Mody

Shri K.M.Munshi

Shri S.Nijalingappa

Shri S.K.Patil

Shri Shankarrao Deo

Shri Arun Chandra Guha

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay

~~Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra~~

Shri Suresh Chandra Majumdar

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka

~~Dr.H.C.Mookerjee~~

~~Shri Surendra Mohan Ghose~~

UNITED PROVICES

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma

Shri Krishna Chandra Sharma

Pandit Govind Malaviya

~~Shri Hariher Nath Shastri~~

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru

Shri Jaspat Roy Kapoor

Shri Mahavir Tyagi

Prof.Shibban Lal Saksena

Shri Mohanlal Gautam

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EAST PUNJAB

Dr.Bakhshi Tek Chand

Pandit Thakur Dass Bhargava

Shri B.L.Sondhi

Lala Achint Ram

Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafir

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man

BIHAR

Shri Banarsi Prasad Jhunjhunwala

Maharajadhiraja Sir Kameshwara Singh

Shri Sri Narayan Mahtha

C.P. & BERAR

Dr.Raghu Vira

Shri Brijlal Nandlal Biyani

Seth Govind Das

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath

Dr.Panjabrao Shamrao Deshmukh

Shri R.K Sidhwa

Mr.Frank Anthony

ASSAM

Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri

ORISSA.

Shri B.Das

Shri Biswanath Das

DELHI

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta

AJMER-MERWARA

Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bharga

COORG

Shri C.M.Poonacha

MYSORE

Shri T.Siddalingaiya

Shri H.R.Guruv Reddy

Shri S.V.Krishnamurthy Rao

Shri K.Hanumanthaiya

BARODA

Dr,Jivraj Narayan Mehta

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Durbar Gopaldas A.Desai

TRAVANCORE

Mr.E.John Philippose

JODHPUR

Shri Jainarain Vyas

JAIPUR

Rao Bahadur Sir V.T.Krishnamachari

Pandit Hiralal Shastri

SIKKIM AND COOCH BEHAR

Shri Himmat Singh K.Maheshwari

ORISSA STATES

Rai Bahadur Lala Raj Kanwar

Shri Yudhishthir Mishra

BOMBAY STATES

Shri B.N.Munavalli

Shri Gokulbhai Daulatram Bhatt

UNITED STATE OF GWALIOR-INDORE MALWA
(Madhya Bharat)

Shri V.S.Sarwate

Lt.Col.Brijraj Narain

Shri Gopikrishna Vijayavargiya

Shri Ram Sahai

Shri Radhavallabh Vijaivergiya

PATIALA AND EAST PUNJAB STATES UNION

Sardar Jaidev Singh,

CUTCH

Shri Bhawanji Arjan Khimji

NEW DELHI, the 5th February, '49

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My dear Pataskar,

Thank you for your letter of the 1st February 1949. Satya Narain Babu had consulted me before he placed the matter before Jawaharlal. The leader has the final voice and he is not willing to make an exception.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

SD

Shri H.V. Pataskar,
Advocate, M.L.A.(Bombay),
Member, Constituent Assembly(India),
Chalisgaon
(Bombay Province)

G.

H. V. Pataskar
Advocate M. L. A. (Bom.)
Member Constituent Assembly
(India)

Chaliegaon
Bombay Province

Date 1-2-1949

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My dear S[illegible]r

I am sending herewith copy of the letter received [illegible] me from Mr. Satya-Narayan Sinha Chief whip of our party in reply to my letter requesting for permission to attend the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) Sessions. In my letter I had requested him to consult you in the matter. It does not appear from the letter that he has done so. As the letter of convention regarding non-attendance of the Legislative Sessions of members of the Provincial Assemblies was issued by the Leader of our Party (Pandit Ji) I had requested Mr. Sinha to consult you and then place the

matter for decision before the Leader of our Party. However I leave the matter in your hands. I really am sorry to trouble you with this small matter and I have done so only to inform you of what had happened after our talk.

Food position on this side also is rather difficult, but we hope to pull through.

With best respects

Yours Sincerely

H. V. Palaskar

15th

Copy.

53 Feroze Shah Road
New Delhi
26-1-1949

My dear Palekar

I placed your letter before Panditji. He regrets that it is not possible to lift the ban against your attending the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) Session.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) Satya Narayan Sinha

All India Depressed Classes League

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President: H.J.Khandekar, MLA

Camp 16-A Ferozshah Road KAROL BAGH
NewDELHI Jan.11,1949

My dear Sardarji,

I am enclosing two of the resolutions passed at the meeting of the Working Committee of the All India Depressed Classes League held at Delhi on the 9th instt.

All the members of the Committee present expressed their admiration for the brilliant manner in whih you have achieved wonders in the States Ministry. We recalled to our minds the pregnant statement of Shri Govind Vallabh Pant at the Subjects Committee of the last Congress session that but for Panditji and you India could not have been ruled in these troublesome times. I have told the Working Committee that both of you have created an imperishable precedent in the field of administration which I am sure will be a most illuminating model for successive generations in India. The Working Committee is proud of you and your achievements.

A full list of all the resolutions passed will be communicated to you by the General Secretary.

With best regards,

Yours most sincerely,
H.J. Khandekar
PRESIDENT

Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Resolution No. 1

This meeting of the Working Committee of the All India Depressed Classes League congratulates the Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel for his foresight and diplomacy for effecting successfully the merger of practically all the States in the Indian Union and by doing so he has given high hopes for the Harijans for the improvement of their conditions in these States.

Resolution No. 2

The Working Committee of the All India Depressed Classes League feels that one more Harijan should be appointed as a Minister of the Central Government and that Harijans should be appointed at the earliest possible chance as Prevl. Governors, Premiers of Provinces, Ambassadors and as State and Deputy Ministers of the Government of India. The Committee therefore authorises the President of the All India Depressed Classes League to take up this question with the Govt. of India, the High Command of the Indian National Congress, the Congress parties in Provincial Legislatures and other authorities concerned.

...

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To

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

Dear Sardar Saheb,

We the following Members of the Constituent Assembly of India desire to place before you our view point in connection with ~~the~~ Article 24 of the Constitution, which we understand is proposed to be amended. We would be grateful, if you could allow us some time to do so and let us know when it would be convenient to you to meet us.

Reply may kindly be sent to the Maharajadhiraja Dr. Sir Kameshwar Singh of Darbhanga, 7 Mansingh Road, New Delhi.

We are,
yours sincere-ly,

P.S.
May we add that the decision at the Party meeting may be held over till we have made our representation to you.

Tajamul Husain
Sri Narayan Mahtha
Hossain Imam
Syed Jafar Imam
Jaipal Singh
Syamnandan Sahaya
Jagannath Baksh Singh
B. P. Jhunjhunwala
[illegible]
[illegible]
Syed Muhammad Saadulla
[illegible]
[illegible]
Kameshwar Singh

Brajeshwar Prasad
[illegible]
[illegible]

NEW DELHI, the 30th December 1948.

Many thanks for your letter of the 27th December 1948. I am sorry that, through misunderstanding, it was not possible for us to meet. I was looking forward to seeing you and hearing about UNO. However, I do hope we shall be able to meet when you come here after Tara's wedding.

Please convey to Tara my heartiest congratulations on her wedding. I wish her and the bridegroom every happiness and success in married life and send them both my sincerest blessings.

I hope you will be bringing them both shortly after the wedding. It is quite possible I may be out of Delhi after the 10th of January or so.

With kindest regards,

Her Excellency Shrimati Vijayalakshmi,
Anand Bhawan,
Allahabad.

R.

ANAND BHAWAN 163
ALLAHABAD
December 27, 1948.

My dear Sardar Sahib.

I learnt from Bhai recently that you had waited for me the other day. I am deeply ashamed about this. The mistake seems to have been made by one of Bhai's Secretaries who informed me that you had cancelled the appointment. Please accept my apologies.

I had been to see you on the 23rd when I was in Delhi for a few hours en route to Hyderabad but learnt that you had left for Pillani for a few days' rest.

As you know, Tara is to be married on the 2nd January. We are trying to keep the wedding on a purely personal basis and have not issued invitations to friends outside Allahabad, but I am afraid some of them will find their way to Anand Bhawan. ~~In any case~~ It would have been a great privilege to have you with us on this occasion, but as we have decided to make the wedding a quiet one I am not asking you to undertake the trouble of coming here. I hope, however, you will send Tara

your blessings on the occasion. I shall bring Tara and her husband to pay their respects to you when we return to Delhi.

With namaskars,

Yours affectionately,

Vijaya Lakshmi

Curzon Road.
New Delhi.
1 December 1947

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Dear Sardar Patel.

I should have written earlier to thank you for sending me that beautiful saree as a wedding gift. I shall always treasure it.

I hope that one day both you and Maniben will honour us by coming over to our new home.

With respectful regards from both of us.

Sincerely yours,
Meenakshi

CAMP: RAM BAGH PALACE,
JAIPUR,
19th December 1948.

Dear Thakur Krishna Singh,

Thank you for your letter of the 14th December 1948.

I am sorry that you could not see me in Delhi. I remember only once your card was brought to me, but then I was in the midst of a conference and I told the peon to apologize that I could not come and see you because Sardar was in the room and the meeting was going on.

As I have already told you earlier and as Sardar has written to His Highness the Maharaja, it is impossible for him to come to Narendranagar.

As regards H.E. the Governor-General and Dr.Rajendra Prasadji, you may approach them direct. It is most unlikely, however, that the latter, in the present state of his health, would be able to come.

Yours sincerely,

(V.SHANKAR)

Thakur Krishna Singh,
Member,
Constituent Assembly of India,
Narendranagar,
Tehri Garhwal State, U.P.

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Narendranagar
Tehri Garhwal
State
U.P.

Camp 33 Constitution House
New Delhi
14/12/48

To

The Joint Secretary
Ministry of States
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

I have tried several times to contact you but it seems you are too busy to afford even two minutes of your valuable time to meet me. I wanted a request to be conveyed to Sardar ji That either he or His Excellency the Governor-General or Dr. Rajendra Prasad ji may grace the opening of the Constituent Assembly of Tehri Garhwal State on the 27th December 1948 at Tehri.

Our state contributes thousands of soldiers to the defence of the country and naturally the people of the state were anxious to see either of these leaders on this auspicious occasion and it is for this reason I have been attempting to meet you and to my great disappointment I was informed everytime that you are too busy and that you can not afford to talk to me.

I am leaving for Narendra-nagar just now. I made a request to His Excellency and there I was asked to see Sardar ji in this connection. Finding myself not successful in meeting you I am addressing this letter with a hope that you will impress upon Sardar ji either to come himself or to advise H.E or Dr Rajendra Prasad ji to open the Constituent

Resembly of Tehri Garhwal
State on the 27th December 48.

Yours faithfully,

Krishna Singh

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New Delhi.
December 8, 1948.

We, the undersigned members of the Constituent Assembly, were gravely concerned to read in the newspapers that you propose to meet a deputation led by Shri Jaiprakash Narain, the Socialist leader, regarding the proposed railway strike. While we do not object to your meeting him and discussing questions of grave public importance with him, we do feel that the present is an inopportune moment to do so, especially when the threat of a general railway strike is hanging over our heads. Needless to say if the strike materialises it will lead to chaos in the country and other consequences which need not be mentioned here.

It will not be out of place for us to point out the circumstances which have led to the proposed strike. Further, it is needless to say that if the leaders of the proposed strike got demoralised and if the strike fizzled out, it would entirely be due to the efforts of the I.N.T.U.S. quite apart from the statements made by responsible members of the Government.

You will, therefore, agree that any encouragement given to a party which is organising a strike for purposes which must be known to you would be detrimental to the interests of the country. It must not be made out by the leaders of the would-be strikers that it was due to their effort that Government proposed to offer certain concessions. This would indeed be a highly undesirable development and an exploitation of this nature would be harmful to the interests of the country.

Yours faithfully,

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35 Constitution House,
New Delhi.

8th December, 1948.

Respected Pantji,

In continuation of my verbal submission the other day, herewith I enclose a copy of the resolution adopted unanimously on 21.11.48 by a convention of the delegates (active members of the Congress) from Bharatpur and Dholpur Units (States) of the Matsya Union, to the first session of the Matsya District Congress Committee held at Alwar, for the favour of your kind and sympathetic consideration and necessary action.

The reasons which prompted and the circumstances which led to this unanimous decision are obvious and well known. Even so, it appears to be opportune and necessary to enumerate, here below, the more important and salient ones, which constitute the basis of this resolution. These are :-

(1) The general desire and the universal keen feeling expressed, from time to time, by all sections of public opinion and almost all classes of people in these States to merge their identity with the people of their immediate neighbouring province - the U.P.

(2) The oneness of culture, language, customs, dress, traditions and folklore between the people of these States and the people of U.P.

(3) The geographical and topographical contiguity and closeness of the territories of these States with U.P.

Dholpur is connected to the rest of Rajputana only by a narrow hilly and roadless bottleneck and Bharatpur is surrounded on about two-thirds of its boundry-line by the districts of Agra and Mathura, with a number of its villages being actually situated

as enclaves within the district of Mathura - thus causing considerable administrative inconvenience.

(4) The fact that about half the area of Bharatpur State, in particular, is, properly speaking, the heart of "Brij" "Kamban" (Kaman),"Lathaban" (Deeg) "Punchri" and almost half of "Goverdhan", all consecrated to the sacred memory of "Bhagwan Krishna", constitute a significant bulk of the State territory. Freaks of past history divided and dismembered this hallowed land, and today some of the component parts of "Brij" like Mathura Brindaban and the like are separated from the rest by a flimsy boundry-line arbitrarily imposed by a foreign power for reasons of its own administrative and imperialistic convenience. With the advent of freedom, therefore, it would be in the fitness of things, if that boundry-line is effaced and so re-adjusted as to restore the pristine oneness and glory of "Brij".

(5) The people of these States eagerly look forward to line up with the comparatively well-developed and progressive province of U.P. so as to benefit from its schemes of development and national reconstruction. It is only too obvious to them that if these States are tagged on to any other province and State they will be put back on the clock of progress and development by at least a ~~six~~ period of a decade, if not more.

(6) The Kisan and common man in the rural areas of these States is only too anxiously awaiting the dawn of the day when after decades and centuries of abject poverty and misery he may find himself in sight of the "promised land"; when he could have a chance of ameliorating his lot by taking advantage of the canal-irrigation and the hydro-electric systems for his fields and little

industries - advantages from which he is at present deprived, even though at some places the great river Jamuna flows less than 20 miles and the canals fed from her only a few furlongs away from the border of the State (Bharatpur).

(7) The potential resources of these States which are considerable both in magnitude and possibilities have not yet been tapped or harnessed for public good and evidently enough, they can be so harnessed, comparatively at an earlier date, only if these States do form part of the U.P., rather than of any other unit.

These considerationsare important and patent enough, even for the common man in these States to understand, and he has thus made his choice intelligently and deliberately. It is why any suggestion to the contrary from any quarters is bound to be misunderstood and misinterpreted by him. Congressmen in these two States, therefore, have only voiced in this resolution a desire and a feeling which is at once universal and emphatic. It may be realized that Congress prestige and influence in these States would naturally suffer a set back if a decision is taken contrary to the declared wishes and sentiments of the people, and motives are bound to be imputed to the local Congressmen.

The only argument that may be advanced against the recommendations contained in the resolutinn is that U.P. is already a big province. But it may be respectfully pointed out that these two States are not big in area or population as to affect a province like U.P. in any appreciable or material way. The population of Bharatpur is only 6½ lakhs and that of Dholpur only over 3 lakhs.

It is therefore respectfully requested that

appropriate necessary steps be kindly taken, at your earliest possible convenience, to secure the fulfilment and realization of the hopes and aspirations of the people of these two States as voiced in the resolution. The sufferings and sacrifices of the people of these two States in their struggle for freedom from a "double slavery" have not been mean or unworthy of notice. At any rate they are too well-known to our national leaders in U.P. who have always been so much a source of inspiration, guidance, support and strength to the people of these States. In fact the "freedom movement" in both these States was first conceived and took shape on the soil of U.P.

The acceptance of this request of the people of these States, therefore, would not be an undeserved "reward" for them. On the other hand it would be a fitting consummation of their "Freedom Struggle".

Yours sincerely,

8.12.48

Sd/- Raj Bahadur,
Member Constituent Assembly
from
Bharatpur (Matsya).

प्रस्ताव

भरतपुर तथा धौलपुर इलाकों के कांग्रेस के डेलीगेटों की यह सम्मिलित बैठक अपना यह निश्चित मत प्रकट करती है कि प्रान्तों अथवा रियासतों की सीमाओं के पुर्नसंगठन अथवा परिवर्तन के समय या अवस्था में भरतपुर और धौलपुर इलाकों की जनता की समय २ पर प्रकट की हुई इच्छाओं तथा भावनाओं के अनुसार एवं इन इलाकों की बोल-चाल, वेष-भूषा, रहन-सहन रीति-रिवाज तथा संस्कृति को दृष्टि में रखते हुए इन इलाकों को किसी अन्य प्रान्त अथवा यूनिट में न मिलाया जा कर केवल संयुक्त-प्रान्त (यू.पी.) में ही मिलाया जावे।

प्रस्तावक,
श्री जगपत सिंह
सदस्य इलाका कांग्रेस-कमेटी
भरतपुर

समर्थक,
श्री गंभीर सिंह
सदस्य इलाका कांग्रेस-कमेटी
धौलपुर

प्रस्ताव सर्व-सम्मति से पास हुआ।

ALLADI KRISHNASWAMI AIYAR

PHONE No. 84106

"EKAMRA NIVAS"
LUZ
Mylapore,

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15-C, Feroze Shah Road,
New Delhi, 6.12.1948.

Dear Gopalji,

In view of my state of health, I have not been able to attend the part, meetings or the Assembly sessions, though on one or two points on which I felt strongly, I sent a note to the Prime Minister.

From the report of the papers and of a few friends that attended the party meeting, I am not quite clear as to the exact form of the amendment to article 31 as a result of the discussion in the party. If the proposed amendment is to the effect that the legislature is to be the sole Judge as to the amount and manner of compensation and that the same is not liable to be questioned in a court, the article will not ensure any protection to persons who are deprived of their property. The article is not confined to the moveable property but applies to every form of property and business enterprise. As you and Dr. Mukerjee have been insisting on the co-operation of capital and labour and increased

output in production, I request you to consider whether the amendment if passed will not have the effect of making capital shy and of ~~dx~~ driving it in some measure out of industry.

I have no doubt you will be present when the matter is taken up at the party meeting on Tuesday and I request you to give the necessary lead to the discussion. I am sorry to have taken up your time with this note.

Yours sincerely,

A Thurbhardwaj

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Cathedral House
Alexandra Place,
New Delhi
4th December 48

Dear Sardarji,

Please accept my most sincere thanks for your noble gesture in coming to the Party Meeting on the 2nd, and expressing your desire that the clauses affecting the religious and cultural rights of the Minorities should be passed without substantial modification. I am writing this instead of meeting you personally only in order to spare you the loss of your precious time. All our people will be deeply impressed by your attitude and will increase in loyalty and attachment to the personalities and the Government which is doing so much to ensure them a fair deal. If Minorities are protected in this manner they need not and must not act for political safeguards. With all my heart I wish you success in your great task of ending Communalism and building up the strength of our nation on political homogeneity.

Permit me to assure you of my humble prayers to God for your continued health and happiness.

Yours sincerely,

/ D'Souza s.j.

D. P. KARMARKAR

Dharwar 176

Date 29-11-1948 19

Dear Sardarji,

I understand that the R.S.S., ~~ar~~ are likely to stage some kind of a Satyagraha in the near future, perhaps in about a week's time. I am conveying the news to you for whatever it may be worth.

With respectful Pranams,

Yours Sincerely,

D.P. Karmarkar

(D.P. Karmarkar)

The Hon'ble,
Sardar Vallabhabhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister,
Govt., of India,
New Delhi

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NEW DELHI,
23rd November 1948.

A.J.M. Atkinson, Esq.,
Deputy Secy. to the Govt.of India,
Legislative Assembly Dppt.,
NEW DELHI.

Dear Sir,

I am desired to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of ~~one~~ a copy each of "Report of the Indian Delegation to the 37th Inter-Parliamentary Conference-Rome-6th to 11th Septr.1948" and "Brief Report of Visit to the Italian Industrial Centres" addressed to Mr. Shankar, P.S. to theHon. Sardar Patel with your Do. No: 171/48. Adm (E.II), dated 19th Novr. 1948.

Yours faithfully,

[signature] 23/11

Personal Assistant to the
Hon. Dy.Prime Minister.

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D.O.No.171/48-Adm.(E.II).

Council House,
New Delhi, the 19th November, 1948.

Dear Mr. Shankar,

I am sending herewith two copies of the *reports of the Indian Delegation to the Inter Parliamentary Conference held at Rome during September, 1948. Dr.B.V.Keskar, one of the Delegates, desires that these reports may please be submitted to the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister (Deputy Leader of the House) for his information.

Yours sincerely,

A.J.M.Atkinson

(A.J.M.Atkinson)

To.

V.Shankar, Esq., I.C.S.,
Private Secretary to the Honourable
the Home Minister.

*
(1) Report of the Indian Delegation to the 37th Inter-Parliamentary Conference-Rome-6th to 11th September, 1948.

(2) Brief report of visit to the Italian Industrial Centres.

REPORT OF THE INDIAN DELEGATION TO THE 37TH INTER PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE-ROME- 6TH TO 11TH SEPTEMBER,1948.

I. The formal work of the conference began on the 6th of September, but there was a reception of the delegates on the evening of 5th of September. Unfortunately, we could not be present as we arrived in Rome at 10.30 P.M. on the 5th.

The session was formally opened at 10.30 on the 6th morning. There was an introductory speech by Lord Stansgate, the President of the Inter Parliamentary Union. In his speech, he referred to the new comers to the conference, Burma, Ceylon, Pakistan and India. He made a special reference to India, and its importance on account of the vastness of the country and its population of more than 300 millions. He jocularly referred to the Indian representatives as 'masquerading as observers'. He naturally referred in his speech to other important events in recent international history and reviewed the vicissitudes of the Union during the war years.

The presidentship of the conference was formally proposed and Count Sforza, Foreign Minister of Italy and President of the Italian Group was unanimously elected as the President of the conference. A panel of vice presidents with one representative from each country was then elected. From our group, Dr.Keskar was elected Vice President.

The Secretary-General of the Union, M.Boissier, presented a report which was a comprehensive one, though it cannot be called exhaustive in every respect. It was a general review of the political situation from the point of view of the Union. It naturally dealt in detail with the items on the agenda of the conference. A general debate took place on this report and continued for two days. Representatives from almost every country spoke, and in

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many cases more than one representatives from the same country spoke. This seems to be inevitable since the National Parliamentary Groups in each country are supposed to consist of representatives of all parties in the respective Parliaments. Many prominent speakers made very kind references to India, and its representatives.

So far as we were concerned, both of us took part in the general debate on the 6th and 7th of Septr. Copies of our speeches are attached herewith.

Representatives of 30 countries had gathered together at the conference. The most notable absentees were Russia and China. Canada and Australia were also absent. Great Britain, U.S.A., France and Egypt had important delegations led by well known personalities. The British Delegation was led by Major Milner, Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons. The American leader was Senator Barkeley, Democratic candidate for Vice Presidentship. M.Bastide, ex-Minister was the leader of the French group, and Heykal Pasha, ex-Minister and ex-Ambassador was in charge of the Egyptian delegation. Count Sforza, Minister for Foreign Affairs was the leader of the Italian group and conducted the proceedings of the conference throughout the session. Count Carton De Wiart, an ex-President of the Inter Parliamentary Union was leading the Belgian delegation There were full-fledged delegations from eastern European countries. Of the Asiatic new-comers, the Burmese delegation was the most active throughout the conference. Pakistan sent a group of five delegates and Shri Shrish Chandra Chattopadhya, leader of the Opposition in Pakistan Constituent Assembly was a member of the delegation.

On the 8th of Septr., the conference split up into two separate sections and discussed separate items in order to save time. There were four main propositions before the conference; 1) Principles of International

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Morality, 2) Care of mothers and children, 3) the question of non-self governing territories, and 4) Regional economic agreement. For facility of work and study, the two members of our delegation distributed the items of the agenda among themselves. Dr.Keskar took up 1) International Morality and 2) cares of mothers and children. Shri Diwakar took up 1) non-self governing territories and 2) regional economic agreement.

During the debate on non-self governing territories, our delegation moved an amendment to the effect that the Governments which are today responsible for the administration of such territories should forthwith begin to treat them as Trusts in term of the Article 75 of U.N.O.Charter, and delete the word, "as soon as possible" from the resolution proposed by the Select Committee on the subject. Our Delegation maintained,there cannot be anything like "as soon as possible" in a matter of principle like this. No country has a right to go and occupy and rule over another. The U.N.O. calls upon every occupying country to treat the occupied territory as Trusts. This can be only done by ceasing to exploit them morally and materially.

Our amendment was accepted. It happened that there was a similar amendment by Mr.Ivor Thomas of Great Britain, who advanced other arguments in favour of his amendment.

During the debate on regional economic agreement, our delegation tabled an amendment to the official resolution clause 4 of which went beyond the limits laid down by the U.N.O. in this matter. The clause 4 of the resolution laid down that such agreements are naturally conditional on fiscal,social and other legislation being similar in the areas concerned. India has maintained so far that no restrictions or limitations should be indicated

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other than these prescribed by the U.N.O. Charter itself. Moreover in the San Francisco conference, a similar clause was sought to be added by Egypt, but was not accepted. Of course, that clause was far more comprehensive since it included expressions like "linguistic, spiritual, cultural and others" which emphasised and involved considerations other than economic ones. Our delegation emphasised the same stand and moved an amendment to delete clause 4. We learnt that clause 4 was not in the original resolution, but was included at the instance of Egypt. While proposing the amendment, our delegation pointed out that the clause may land itself to quite a different interpretation, and may encourage countries to place the emphasis on religion, race, and such other considerations to the detriment of economic one. The Rapporteur in his speech said that this aspect had been discussed in the committee and there would be no danger of such an interpretation, the clause merely recognising certain facts and nothing else. It was more in the nature of an observation than a recommendation. Our delegation then withdrew the amendment.

The debate on the care of mothers and children proved to be most unexpectedly controversial, and it was decided to refer the resolution back to the committee.

The most important and most interesting resolution was regarding principles of international morality. The debate lasted nearly for seven hours. The clause regarding unequal treaties was ultimately withdrawn from the resolution and referred back to the Select Committee. There was a general agreement with regard to the most of the clauses. There were many amendments proposed, and many of them were accepted. There was a breeze when the Egyptian delegation wanted to reopen discussion on clause 7 after it had been passed the day before. It ultimately came to vote and the Egyptians were defeated by a narrow

margin. There was heated discussion on the question of atomic energy control and the American leader made a very heated speech defending his country against insinuations made on the floor of the conference. On one or two clauses, there was close voting.

There is a general understanding in the Inter Parliamentary Union that no resolution be passed by a majority vote but that efforts be made to bring about as large a measure of agreement as possible, and only those resolutions be accepted which got a very large measure of support. But this time, another procedure was followed and specially with regard to certain questions regarding principles of international morality, there was voting and on one or two amendments, it was pretty close. It is questionable whether a resolution accepted by a simple majority vote will carry that moral authority which it ought to enjoy.

We would like to make one or two general observations about the work of this conference. In the first place, it was clear from the very beginning that though the Union claims to be a free platform and theoretically every delegate is free to express his opinion, the different delegations showed a marked tendency to group themselves into one or two blocs according to their geographical position. For example, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia and Rumania acted very much as a bloc, specially during discussions on certain important matters. The same was the case with England, U.S.A. and France. The case of the Middle East and Asiatic countries was different. They followed different directives according to the situation. They had no particular group to follow. Secondly, on certain matters of principles, as for example, the question of colonies and non-self governing territories, the western

European countries took up a definite stand which was detrimental to the future and to the interests of eastern asian nations. On many matters, the outlook and approach of the Middle East and Asia is bound to differ from western Europe and America. Specially with regard to certain economic problems and political issues which vitally affect the immediate future of the east as a whole, there is bound to be a difference between the west and the east. The need for any concerted plan on behalf of the delegations from the Middle East and South Asia was keenly felt. Some of the Asiatic delegations definitely suggested a preliminary meeting of the South Asia and Middle East Delegation before the next meeting of the conference. We earnestly support this suggestion.

The Inter Parliamentary Union is a non-governmental channel of international activity. India is now a free country, and she holds a very important and strategic position in the world. She is capable of greatly helping in the moulding of world opinion and thus shaping the things to come. We think that the Union is a platform on which parliamentarians of a very large number of countries gather together (This time 30 countries were there) and it is, therefore, necessary that India should try to take more active part in its future work. Voting as a general rule is not important as most decisions are arrived at after a large measure of agreement, but quite often there is voting and as it happened this time, things might be decided by a close vote. Today, U.S.A. holds the highest number of votes according to the constitution. If and when, India becomes a regular member, she would have the highest number of votes and can sway the decision.

Moreover, India has certain advantages. She is a new-born free country, and has no colonies or no and

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to grind. She has no political commitments, and has no aggressive intentions. These things invest India with a moral power which she can utilise for the furtherance of humanity.

It may be said without exaggeration that India made an opportune and good beginning at this year's session of the conference. Excepting voting, the Indian observers had every other privilege of delegates. They could take part in the debate and make contacts with delegates from other countries. They had this year a good opportunity of observing at close range the functioning of the Union without actively taking sides this or that way. The contacts that they have made would prove fruitful in the future. The warm and personal welcome extended to our observers by delegates from England, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Italy and some other countries showed that India's presence in the conference is considered by them as a most welcome and important event, but we will have to work hard and see that our national group when formed takes an active part in the cause of international progress.

The Inter Parliamentary Union is a long standing institution, now nearly 50 years old, which mainly works through its seven committees. This time, our delegation has suggested another committee which may be called educational and cultural committee. We will not be able to influence the work of the Union unless we have representatives on these committees. A suggestion was put forward by a member of our delegation, Shri R.R.Diwakar for the change in the system of election and the selection of some procedure whereby specially qualified persons are elected to the popular assemblies. Naturally, this suggestion will have to be discussed in the Council of the Union before being entertained.

We hope that by the time the conference meets

next year, India would Indian Parliament would have formed its own national group and thus be able to send a regular delegation to continue the work already begun. Our group would be all the stronger in the Union, if it steers clear of the power groups. During the debates of the conference it was obvious that the supporters of the two power blocs were trying to manoeuver for increasing their strength, but fortunately, restraint and discretion had the upper hand in the end. Undoubtedly, India can play a very important role in balancing these opposing forces and thus influences world opinion in the interest of peace and well being of humanity.

B Shiva Rao

BRIEF REPORT OF VISIT TO ITALIAN FACTORIES

Our visit to the Italian industrial centres was arranged by the Italian Ministry of Economic Affairs. On the 13th and 14th, we visited Milan, the 15th, we spent in Turin and the 16th and 17th in Genoa. We went round some of the leading factories in these three centres which form the back-bone of Italian industry. As it was not possible to visit all sorts of factories, we concentrated on those which could be helpful to Government-run industries in India, like railways, ship-building, wireless, posts and electrical equipment.

The factories that we visited in Milan are described below briefly: The various detailed pamphlets giving the work of these factories will, in due course, be given to the Department of Industries and Supplies. They are coming from Paris by ordinary mail.

1. F.A.C.E. This factory specializes in the manufacture of telephone equipment. They make all sorts of telephones, including automatic ones. It is one of the big Italian telephone factories, and they are in alliance with some of the leading American concerns in this line. They appear to be quite ready to supply equipment of all sorts and also erect plant in India, if necessary.

2. The Vender Factory.- Vender makes tractors only. They have got two varieties, one big and one small, and their tractors have a sale all over Eastern Europe, northern Africa and South America.

3. The Factory of Tallero.- This factory makes railway equipment, including locomotives and wagons. Their workshops are not on a very big scale.

4. The Factory O.M.- The O.M. factory are also manufacturers of railway equipment, but on a bigger scale than Tallero. They make locomotives, electric and steam, and also diesel - electric. At the same time, they also manufacture wagons and passenger compartments.

5. Orcero-Marelli.- This is a very big factory which manufactures railway equipment of all sorts including locomotives, goods wagons and passenger bogies. They appeared sufficiently equipped to execute orders from foreign countries.

6. The factories of Magneto-Marelli.- This factory is specially devoted to wire-less, radio and tele-communications. They are, in this line, manufacturers of international repute. Their factories are capable of erecting all sorts of radio-stations, short-wave and long-wave, and manufacture wireless tele-communication sets, big and small, and suited to all purposes. It appears that they have invented a new equipment for wireless telephone communications, which is very cheap and easily installed. They told us that they were ready to take up orders in tele-communications and also erections of radio-stations immediately, and it appears that they have done some big contracts even in America.

7. Factory Pirelli.- The Pirelli is one of the biggest factories in Italy. They specialize in the making of wireless and cables of all sorts and for all purposes, from ordinary electric current to special marine ocean cables for telephone and telegraph. They are well known inventors in this line and their patents are being used in all countries of the world including U.S.A. We had a talk with them and they appeared willing to consider a proposal for erecting a wire and cable manufacturing factory in India.

8. The Breda.- Breda is one of the two or three biggest manufacturing concerns in Italy. They make all sorts of machines and railway equipment. They even manufacture aeroplanes. They have a vast plant in Milan. They make steam and electric locomotives on quite a big scale. They are also manufacturers of certain machine

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tools, and they told us that they are in a state to accept orders for machine tools immediately. They specialize in deisel, electrical and locomotive trains. Their plant for manufacture of steam locomotives is also a very complete one. They are in a state to accept orders for all sorts of railway equipments.

In Turin, we visited the following factories:

1. Fiat.- The Fiat is one of the most famous factories in Europe. They are motor manufacturers and at the same time, they manufacture on a very big scale railway and electrical equipment. Their plant for manufacturing wagons and passenger bogies is the biggest in Italy. They appear quite ready to take up the manufacture of special types of locomotives, steam or electric, suited to Indian conditions, and also to present model passenger bogies for temperatures prevailing in India. Fiat also manufactures machine tools.

2. Savigliano.- Savigliano is a factory devoted to manufacture of railway equipment and certain important machine tools. They also manufacture tractors and their tractors appeared to us to be the best that we had seen so far. Their tractors are exported on a large scale to South America.

3. Micro-Tecnica.- This factory is a very specialized one and manufactures all sorts of specialized instruments, gadget and precision instruments. Certain of their instruments are well known, as for example, the marine gyroscope. They have got a big laboratory and research equipment where they undertake to study and manufacture all sorts of new machines or instruments for special requirements and suitable to special conditions.

In Genoa, we visited the famous ship-building yard of Ansaldo. This is one of the famous construction yards in Europe and it is equipped with all up-to-date machinery. They manufacture all sorts of ships from ordinary freighter to a big battle ship. They are in a position to accept orders for building all sorts of ships. They also manufacture railway equipment. At present, they are building ships for many countries. They are specialized in certain special models of passenger and marine ships which give very good service all over the world. They also manufacture turbines and generators.

It is worth remarking here that all the big Italian factories mentioned above, Breda, Marelli, Fiat, Savigliano, manufacture generators and turbines on a big scale and their workmanship is technically rated very high.

After all visit to these factories, we feel that there is quite a big field for getting necessary equipment from Italy in all these lines and it looks that the Italian factories can furnish us with the necessary goods much more quickly than, for example, England or U.S.A. In fact, by one or two of the leading factories, we were told that they were not working to full capacity for want of orders. It is for the Government now to take up this question and find out how far it is beneficial to us to arrange for an exchange of commodities with Italy but we would like to draw the special attention to one or two factories, one is the Pirelli, who appeared ready to erect a cable and wire plant in India, which will have all the processes from the beginning, or who are ready to help in the erection of such a plant. Secondly, the Marelli telephone communication equipment, which appears to us something which the Government could with great benefit utilise immediately. As they are ready to supply with necessary equipment for erecting radio stations of any power. It looks to us that we can get much more quickly equipment in this line from them than from factories in U.S.A. or England.

B Vkeskar

File

13E, Feroz Shah Road,
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13.10.48 189
Telephone No. 8416.

My dear Sardar Saheb

I have returned today to Delhi after spending a momentous week in Bombay. There were three important meetings. The first meeting was of the Working Committee of the A.I.T.U.C which was convened to elect the A.I.T.U.C. representative on the I.L.O. Textile Committee. The non Communist bloc in the A.I.T.U.C. known as the Workers United Front put up Shri R. S. Ruikar as its candidate. The Communists opposed him & put up Shri Maneck Gandhi, and being in charge of the office, had manipulated that the [illegible] communist unions & members of the Working Committee should muster strong in the meeting. The non-communist Unions & members did not worry as the established practice was to have decisions by unanimity & we all were convinced that Com. Ruikar would be recognised as the most suitable candidate to represent the A.I.T.U.C. at the Textile Committee of the I.L.O. both from the point of view of his seniority in the labour movt. & also for his special knowledge. Suddenly the Communists decided to carry their candidate by majority which they had manipulated by collecting their union votes as well as their Working Committee members which the non-Communists had not cared to do so as they had depended on the established practice of having decisions by unanimity. The meeting was therefore unexpectedly tense. The Communists did not realise the consequences of their action & foolishly stuck to their candidate [illegible] The result was

that every non-Communist member of the Working Committee threatened to resign. Even Comrade N. M. Joshi, General Secretary of the A.I.T.U.C. threatened resignation. But Haneek Ganshi was so eager to go to I.C.O. that he did not yield. And the result is that all non-Communist elements in the A.I.T.U.C. have now resigned, & the Communists have been isolated. V.V. Giri who was the Vice President of the A.I.T.U.C. have resigned. Comrade N.M. Joshi who is Gen. Secretary has resigned. Among the Working Committee members, Com. Runkar has resigned. The resignations of Shri Kanhyalal, Shri Bishwanath Dube, & Shri Anthony Pillai who are also non-Communist members of the Working Committee will also follow soon. Shri Nirmal Kanti Bose of Bengal has also resigned from the Working Committee though not from the A.I.T.U.C. The A.I.T.U.C. is therefore now divested of all the non-Communist support. The Communists are now completely isolated. Only K.N. Joglekar, the acting president remains. He is an ex-Communist & now a forward blockist. But Runkar, Gen. Secy. of the Forward Bloc, has left. So the A.I.T.U.C. has the support of no other party except the ~~communist party~~ Communist Party. We are now disaffiliating our Unions from the A.I.T.U.C. The ~~Postmen & R.M.S.~~ Postmen & R.M.S. Union with a membership of about one lac members has already left by a resolution passed in the Open Session on 10.10.48. I myself moved the resolution & got it passed. Our other non-Communist Unions will also now get out of it. I think unions with a total membership of about three lacs will

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now get out of the A.I.T.U.C. All the C.P. Unions of Ruikar, & our Unions in the U.P., & the big Dock & Port Workers Unions, Sugar Unions, our Railway Unions & some other miscellaneous Jute & Cotton & other Unions will get out of the A.I.T.U.C.

The question now is whether these unions which are now getting out of the A.I.T.U.C. will join the Socialist Mazdoor Panchayat or the I.N.T.U.C. and it is still actively under consideration. Jai Prakash is wooing Shri N.M. Joshi & Ruikar & others. But I think they can all be brought in the I.N.T.U.C. if you make the attempt. I am exercising my influence in favour of the I.N.T.U.C. But the controversy between the A.I.T.U.C. & I.N.T.U.C. has been so bitter that much ice has to be broken before Joshi, Ruikar & others can be persuaded to come into the I.N.T.U.C. So far the A.I.T.U.C had the merit of being a platform where every trade unionist was welcome irrespective of the fact whether he belonged to the Congress, Socialist party, Forward Bloc or the Communist Party. ~~[illegible]~~ The decisions were taken by agreement. But now the A.I.T.U.C. has become the Communist platform. It is probably good that they have become isolated. The I.N.T.U.C. must now try to see it gets to all parties. It should not remain an integral part of the Congress. ~~[illegible]~~ By the very nature of circumstances, Congressmen will have an overwhelming majority. Still by having N.M. Joshi, Ruikar & others, if the I.N.T.U.C. will be very much strengthened & the third Mazdoor Panchayat of Jai Prakash will

fizzle out. But if you miss this opportunity to get N. M. Joshi, Rinkar & others who are leaving the A.T.U.C into I.N.T.U.C. they will go into the Hind Mazdoor Panchayet & then the Socialist Party Labour Front will become a formidable opponent. Here is then an opportunity for the play of your statesmanship. I would suggest you call Joshi & Rinkar yourselves & have talks with them. If you like, you can first approach them through Shri S. K. Patil or Shri Khandubhai Desai. I can also act as the intermediary. But you alone can do the trick & succeed. Here is an opportunity which should not be missed. I may even warn you that some opportunists like Hari Harnath Sastri may not like stalwarts like Joshi & Rinkar coming in the I.N.T.U.C., as he himself might be then overshadowed. But if you are convinced that getting these men in the I.N.T.U.C. will ~~[illegible]~~ deprive the Hind Mazdoor Panchayet of the possibility of becoming a rival to the I.N.T.U.C., I hope you will not miss the opportunity.

I wish I could discuss things personally with you, but I have to go back to Gorakhpur this evening. Acharya Kriplani is reaching Gorakhpur on the 16.10.48, as I, am the President of the District Congress Committee, as well as of the Gandhi Memorial Committee, & have arranged for Gandhi memorial Fund collections on that day, I must leave today to supervise all arrangements. I will be in

Gorakhpur till 22nd. when I have to go to Calcutta to preside over the All India Dock & Port Workers' Federation Executive on 24.10.48 & the All India Train Examiner's Committee on the same date. I will return to Gorakhpur on 26.10.48 & will come back to Delhi on 31.10.48.

The second important meeting which I attended at Bombay was the meeting of the managing Committee of the Bombay Port & Dock Workers' Union which has decided to reject the Conciliation offer of the Govt., & launched upon the Strike. I desire to explain the entire situation to you. I am in entire agreement with you that everyone of us must strain ourselves to the utmost to avert strikes. But as I had pointed out during the discussions on the Industrial Truce during the Industrial Conference on Dec. 18, 1947, Industrial Truce can only be achieved by removing the causes for strikes. These causes are sometimes not removed in time, & delay exasperates workers. In the present Case of the Bombay Dock Strike, I wish to give you a short history. That there is serious discontent in the docks for several years is acknowledged. There was a long Dock workers strike in Calcutta in Feb. 1947, & it was called off on agreement with the workers. The Govt of India introduced a Bill in the Parliament in Dec. 1947, and it was passed in Jan. 1948. In March 1948 I was elected President of the All India Dock & Port Workers Federation, & had presented my views in the Select Committee on the Dock Labour Regulation Bill. I had

specially appealed for quick action in terms of the Bill. A Committee was appointed in Bombay to prepare a Scheme under the Act. But although the Report of the Committee was submitted in June 1948, no action has been taken so far upon it. The workers were exasperated & at the 2nd Session of the All India Dock & Port Workers Federation held at Madras in July 1948, a resolution for taking strike ballot was passed as notice was pending without giving effect to Govt Scheme prepared at Bombay. I could not attend the Madras session. The Strike ballot was to be taken by 10th July 1948. But I intervened & persuaded the Executive Committee to keep the strike ballot resolution in Abeyance & instead asked the Committee to wait in deputation on Shri Jagjivan Ram ji. We met him on 16.10.48 in New Delhi & placed before him the grievances of the Dock workers. He gave a patient hearing, & I impressed upon him the need of quick decision as otherwise the workers patience would be exhausted. It was agreed that the Govt would implement the Bombay Scheme in about three months time & the other demands would also be examined & the Govt decision thereon announced during this period. On that assurance I was able to postpone the strike ballot for 3 months & 24.10.48 was fixed as the date of the meeting of the A.I.P.& Dock Workers Federation at Calcutta when Govt action during the three month intervening period would be reviewed & final action decided upon. As I have said above that meeting will be held in Calcutta on 24.10.48 & I will preside over it. But I am extremely sorry to have to say that the Govt has so far done nothing in the matter & instead even the minutes of our talk with Shri Jagjivan Ram have

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been distorted to say that action would not be possible before 3 months. While, therefore, no response to my appeal to act quickly & to ~~expedite the Scheme~~ give us a reply to our demands in atleast three months time has so far come, another cause for exasperating the workers was introduced in Bombay this month by the English Manager of Bombay Docks one Williams probably. He introduced a double shift & incentive bonus scheme which results in a wage cut of Rs. 23 from the prevailing wages. It is utterly wrong to say that the scheme was made in Consultation with the workers. Now the management says that the scheme is an experimental one & will be reviewed after six months. This utter indiscretion of this English Dock manager, Mr. Williams, proved to be the last straw on the Camels back, & the Bombay Union gave a strike notice. The Govt of India should have immediately withdrawn the scheme and waited till decision was taken on all the demands of the Federation presented to the Hon'ble Shri Jagjivan Ram personally on 16.7.48 by our Deputation, & much earlier by post. Instead the Govt of India offered a Conciliation Board. The workers resented it. They had hoped for favourable action by the Govt on their demands & withdrawal of the new experiment. Instead they got a Conciliation Board ~~which~~ which may take four months to report and may not still come to unanimous conclusions. The delay in the present Conciliation machinery of the Govt. is exasperating workers everywhere. In the meeting of the managing Committee of the Bombay Dock & Port Workers Union held on night of 9.10.48 under my presidentship, I and Kale & Mr. Bishwanath Dube placed

hand with the workers to accept the Conciliation Board after prescribing a time limit of 15 days for decision by the Conciliation Board. But the workers argued that if any one of the parties disagreed, the decision of the Conciliation Board would be null & void & as they felt that agreement between their representatives & those of the Port Trust & Stevedores was impossible, & after fifteen days they would be forced to go on strike again, & the interval would be used by the authorities to demoralise them & to break their unity. So all the 157 representatives of all branches of working Bombay Docks & Port unanimously refused to accept the ~~Conciliation~~ Conciliation Board even with a 15 days time limit.

I personally feel that the ~~Bombay~~ Dock & Port Workers Strike in Bombay can be called off if you refer the issues to arbitration by an impartial person in whom the workers have confidence provided that all parties agree in advance to abide by the decision and the decision is given before 20th 1948. The present Conciliation Board will not help matters, & making the Strike illegal will make the situation still worse. I am prepared to offer my services as an arbitrator to settle the dispute. Of Course all parties must agree in advance to abide by the arbitrator's decision. I think the nations interests demand that the whole dispute in Docks & Ports including the present Bombay Dispute & the ~~Bombay~~ demands submitted to Shri Jagjivan Ram on 16.7.48 must be settled by impartial arbitration with the utmost quickness, & I am prepared to offer my services as an arbitrator in the whole dispute.

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The third important meeting which I attended was the 22nd Annual Session of the All India Postmen & Lower grade (including R.M.S.) Staff Union held in Bombay on 8th, 9th & 10th Oct. I am a Vice President of the U.P. Union & have a commanding voice in the Union. But Mr. V.G. Dalvi made an alliance with Jay Prakash & betrayed us. [redacted] The Bombay postal union is under socialist influence & the Reception Committee elected Jay Prakash as the President. None of the provincial unions were consulted, & we were all very angry. But then Dalvi moved an amendment in the Constitution which gave absolute right to the Reception Committee to elect the President from among four names suggested by the General Secretary. There was only one alternative before us, & that was to cause a split by walking out with our U.P., the Punjab & other delegates. But we did not like to disrupt the Union which we have built up by 22 yrs. of our labours, & so we reconciled ourselves to his presidentship. Still we succeeded in taking the Union out of the A.I.T.U.C. & did not allow it to go into the Hind Mazdoor Panchayat. I am confident that if you assist, we can get it into the I.N.T.U.C.

But the best help that I can render to the I.N.T.U.C. is by helping it to form a strong, powerful Railwaymen's Federation. I have commanding influence in the [redacted] O.T. Rly. Staff welfare Union of which I am the vice president. This is the real union now & the former union which is affiliated to Jay Prakash's Federation is bogus, & its president B.N. Chowdhry is wholly discredited. I am the President of the Assam

Railwaymen's Union & this union is by far more powerful than the Socialist Union formed by Jayprakash & his friends & affiliated to Federation. Besides these two Railway Unions, I am the vice-president of the All India running Staff & Rail & the All India Train Examiners Committee. In every Railway the drivers, the Shunters, the firemen & other loco staff & the Train Examiners & the Carriage Staff are members of these two organisations. With these two nucleus we can form a far stronger Federation of Railwaymen than the one of the Communists & Socialists which Jay Prakash presides.

If the proposals I have made in this letter are pursued, I hope the I.N.T.U.C will have all Railway labour, all Dock & Port-labour, all post & telegraph labour, all Central Govt employees, all cotton textile & mine labour in C.P. & Assam, all Sugar labour, much Jute labour & other miscellaneous labour in the I.N.T.U.C. The A.I.T.U.C & the Hind Mazdoor Panchayet will then sink into oblivion & the I.N.T.U.C will become the invincible, single labour organisation in the country. Congress will influence it through the overwhelming majority of its workers & not by having it as its official wing. And with men like N.M. Joshi, R.S. Ruikar, Bishwanath Dubey in the I.N.T.U.C, its prestige will rise immensely.

In the end I congratulate you on your brilliant statesmanship in liquidating & your speech last night on Kashmir & relations with Pakistan. I hope you are in the best health.

Yours sincerely, Vallabhbhai Patel

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NEW DELHI, 8th November 1948.

My dear Ranga,

Thank you for your letter of the 29th October 1948. I am not going to Vizagapatam; the launching ceremony will be done at Delhi where I shall press the button and the ship would be launched electrically at Vizagapatam. In view of the present state of my health, it would not be possible for me to take such a long trip. Hence, this arrangement.

I cannot tell you how keen I myself am to visit various places in the Madras Province. Indeed, before I had fallen ill last March, I had planned to visit various places in Madras in the last week of March. But, unfortunately, on account of illness I could not fulfil my desire. I could assure you that I shall give Bezwada and Madras priority as soon as I am well enough.

Yours sincerely,

Professor N.G. Ranga,
Member of the Constituent Assembly.

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'GRAMS: "CONGRESS" 'PHONE :158

Andhra Provincial Congress Committee

ANDHRARATNA BHAVANAM

Governorpet

BEZWADA

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Ref _____ Date 29th Oct. '48.

My dear Sardarjee,

I am glad to learn that you are going to Visagapatam to launch the second ship of the Scindhias on the 10th November.

Our Andhras are all very anxious to have your Darshan as well as message. More than 200,000 Andhras can get your Darshan if only you are good enough to spare a day for Bezwada and address a public meeting and accept the invitation from our P.C.C. Since Bezwada is the central-most place in the Andhra and also for the Telingana of Hyderabad, it will be most convenient for people of all Andhra to rush to it to have your Darshan. Therefore I request you to go to Bezwada either on the 15th or 17th October. i.e one day before or after your visit to Vizag.

There is a serviceable aerodrome at Gannavaram, 10 miles from Bezwada, if doctors

allow you to come by plane.

I dare say you remember that you have not given a chance to our people to have your Darshan and have you in their midst after the Coconada Congress Session in 1923. So we deserve this one day of yours after these 25 years. You know how much we need and deserve your help & encouragement.

Anyhow, we want you to spare a couple of hours in Vizag for our P.C.C Working Committee and General Body during the 16th November, after you launch the ship at Vizag

Yours affectionately,

(N.G.RANGA)

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister,
Government of India,
Aurangzeb Road,
New Delhi.

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NEW DELHI, 8th November 1948.

My dear Balkrishna Sharma,

Thank you for your letter of the 7th November 1948. My comments as well as Shankar's views on the matter to which you have referred were based on the information furnished by you. I have already asked for a report from the Ministry. As soon as I get the papers, I shall look into the matter. If, as you say, this has been done in accordance with the instructions conveyed by the Ministry, there would be no difficulty in reviewing the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Balkrishna Sharma,
Member, Constituent Assembly,
5, Windsor Place,
NEW DELHI.

G.

5, Windsor Place
New Delhi.

7th Nov. '48

Revered Sardar Sahib,

I am very grateful to you for your very kind letter of the 6th inst. in reply to a certain matter which I had placed before you. You have been pleased to state that the selections for the interviews are made by the Federal Public Service Commission. You have also said that it would not be right to suggest that an outsider could influence the decision of that body.

I, however crave your permission to point out that it is not the public service commission but the ministry of the I. and B. which has asked the public service commision not to invite for interview for the post of editor in Hindi section only, men over forty. I am informed that Shree Sainti Parshad, or some other officer of the Ministry directed the F.P.S.C. to this effect. The matter therefore lies entirely with your ministry regarding this discrimination in

Connection with the posts of the editors of hindi section. When employees nearing and over fifty in other sections have been ~~invited for interview~~ appointed, I see no reason why hindi section et alone should be discriminated against this matter

Only this evening, at the Russian Embassy, I had a talk about it with Shree Vidya Shankar. He too is under the impression that the public Service Commision have put a ban upon Shree Manmath Nath Gupta and Shree Chander Gupta Vidyalankar. But my information seems to me to be more correct. ~~I~~ Therefore hope it would not be at all difficult for you to ask the U.P.S.C. to send for these two friends also for interview.

With respectful pranams.

As Ever Yours

Balkrishna Sharma

Prof. N. G. Ranga
Member, Constituent Assembly of India.

NIDUBROLU P.O.
D 30th Oct. '48

Personal

My dear Sardarjee,

Hyderabad State Congress Affairs:

I am getting reports from various responsible State Congressmen in Hyderabad that the Swamijee's group is pursuing a vindictive policy against the other group which was defeated in 1947 in the presidential election only by a few votes. It is also alleged - I cannot vouch for its accuracy - that a large number of the latter group are being imprisoned on the complaint or instigation of Swamijee's group under the false charge of their being Communist. I know for a fact that if at all any group in Hyderabad State Congress had been rather soft towards Communists, it is the Swamijee's group and not the others.

It seems attempts are being made to take disciplinary action on a large number of Swamijee's opponents on various spurious charges.

There is thus a terrible struggle going on for power in the State Congress because of the

political power that is dangling before them.

I request you therefore to send for the leaders of both the groups and try to bring about some settlement between them.

I may inform you that my offer of touring in Telingana area from 28th to 30th was not accepted by the State Congress although I wanted to spare these days because of the numerous requests I received from the people of Telingana.

Yours affectionately,

(N.G.RANGA.)

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister,
Government of India,
Camp: Bombay.

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'GRAMS: "CONGRESS" 'PHONE :158

Andhra Provincial Congress Committee

ANDHRARATNA BHAVANAM

Governorpet
BEZWADA

Ref.

Date 30th Oct. '48.

My dear Sardarjee,

Elections in French India:

The situation in French India is daily growing more unsatisfactory. You must have read what is happening in Mahe. The A.I.C.C observers who have gone to other centres like Pondicherry and Yanam in Andhra have brought back their reports of the unseemly coercive and undemocratic methods used by the French officials in obstructing the full democratic expression of the peoples' will in the recent municipal elections.

I hope you would agree that our Government should not allow the people of Mahe to be suppressed by French Government and should take suitable steps and strengthen the democratic forces in other French centres.

I request you, therefore, to take urgent and adequate steps and also take the public into your confidence at an early and suitable date as to the steps our Government is taking or proposes to take.

Yours sincerely,

(N.G.RANGA)
PRESIDENT, APCC.

The Hon'ble [illegible] Bahadur,
Acting Prime Minister,
Government of India,
CAMP : BOMBAY.

R.R.Diwakar.

Genova,
Italy, 17.9.48

My dear Sardarji,

We were at Milan on the 13th September 1948 when we read in the Italian papers that action had been taken against Hyderabad. I must congratulate you for the bold action inspite of very many difficulties. We are noting the progress also. Now there cannot be any stopping till the logical end is reached.

We read today that the U.N.O. Council is taking up the matter if Hyderabad's complaint is in order- But if we feel we must not hesitate till we have seen the end of it. Otherwise, the U.N.O. has the habit of complicating matters without giving a solution.

We are leaving Genova today for Paris. That is, we have completed our assignment except that at Geneva which we reach on the 27th after Paris and London.

Our Commission was three-fold:-

(a). Taking part in the Inter-parliamentary conference at Rome (6th to 11th September 1948).

(b). Visiting Industrial centres of Italy from the point of view of the Indian Government, and

(c). Studying the decentralised industries especially watch industry in Geneva and round about.

Now regarding (a) we think India did well in sending representatives even though a group in our Parliament has not yet been formed. Pakistan hurriedly formed a group by circular letter to Assembly Members and sent a regular delegation. There is a lot of misunderstanding and we had to clear the issues especially regarding Kashmir and Hyderabad. As to the actual conference, both of us spoke in the general debate and then I moved two amendments to resolutions and had to speak on them also. One amendment was accepted and I withdrew the other after an explanation from the mover. All welcomed our presence very much and Lord Stansgate was very particular in cultivating our friendship. I am seeing him again in London. America was friendly but not particular. But contacts made with other countries will have to be kept on.

Re: Industries, Italy is doing a lot of and very efficiently in ship-building, electrical goods, radio apparatus, tractors, locomotives, tramcars, cars and buses, and so on. Much that is useful to us is manufactured and they are manufacturing their own machines. We are preparing a detailed report.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- R.R.Diwakar.

about.

Now regarding (a) we think India did well in sending representatives even though a group in our Parliament has not yet been formed. Pakistan hurriedly formed a group by circular letter & Assembly members & sent a regular delegation. There is a lot of misunderstanding & we had to clear the issues especially regarding Kashmir & Hyderabad. As to the actual conference, both of us spoke in the general debate & then I moved two amendments to resolutions & had to speak on them also. One amendment was accepted & I withdrew the other after an explanation from the mover. All welcomed our presence very much & Lord Hausgate was very particular in cultivating our friendship. I am seeing him again London. America was friendly but not particular. But contacts made with other countries will have to be kept up.

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R. R. Diwakar

NEW DELHI, the 12th October 1948.

My dear Diwakar,

Thank you for your letter of the 7th October 1948. I also received your previous two letters and was glad to hear an account of your experiences. I am glad that both you and Dr.Keskar, whose brief account I had from him the other day, consider your visit well worth while.

I have received certain representations suggesting that the Linguistic Commission should postpone its visit to Bombay by a few days. I am forwarding these requests to the Linguistic Commission for their consideration.

The Constituent Assembly is likely to meet on the 4th November. I shall see you in New Delhi when you come here for the Assembly meeting.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shri R.R.Diwakar,
Member,
Constituent Assembly of India,
Hubli, Bombay).

R.

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Camp Bombay
7-10-48

My Dear Sardarji,

I reached Bombay at noon yesterday by plane from Cairo. I spent 3 days in Cairo. I have sent a wire this morning intimating to you my arrival.

I am leaving for Hubli tomorrow and shall stay on there till the 13th inst, when I shall leave again for Bombay. Since I am an Associate Member of the Linguistic Provinces Commission, I shall have to be with it from the 15th of oct to the 26th of oct '48. This period the Commission is spending at Bombay (15-23) Poona (24) and Hubli (25-26).

Dr Keskar, my colleague came direct from Geneva to Bombay and reached Delhi on the 4th. I do not know if he has seen you. I have yet received no communication from him.

I hope you have already received my two letters written from the Continent giving a few details.

As regards the Rome Conference, my impression is, it was a good thing that we went even as observers. Next time our people can go as regular delegates. According to calculation on population basis and on the basis of the number of members in the proposed Lower House, India will have the highest number of votes in the Inter Parliamentary conference and the Inter Parliamentary Union. I think we should not neglect that platform as

we can meet prominent Parliamentarians in that organisation in a more informal manner and have freer and franker discussions on International problems. Another attempt that we should immediately do is to contact the Inter Parliamentary Groups in all the Asiatic countries that are taking part in the activities of the Union. I should think that the contacts we have already made should be kept up.

On the whole, India as well as Ceylon and other new Entrants were welcomed warmly. The General Secretary, Monsieur Bossieux, held long conversations with us when we met him at his office in Geneva and he congratulated us on the active part that we played by taking part in the General Debate as well as by moving amendments to the resolutions and making some original suggestions as regards the work of the Union.

When in London, Lord Stansgate invited us for Lunch and Tried to convey to us the importance of the Union. I casually remarked that it was just possible that the United Nations organisations would go the way of the League of Nations but the Inter Parliamentary Union, which is 59 years old and which is responsible to a great extent for the formation of public opinion on the lines of peace and order without war, would still continue as a working body!

Regarding the second assignment, viz., visiting the industrial centres in Italy we have visited about 12 big industrial plants. In my

R. R. DIWAKAR
HUBLI
Bombay Dominion

mind, from our point of view, the ship building yard at Genoa and the Electric equipment factory at Milan are of very great importance. The main points that we tried to observe were, one the raw materials used, 2) the standard and efficiency of production. 3) the testing machines that they used, 4) the availability of the finished product for India, 5) the possibility of buying things on the basis of exchange 6) the possibility of training our young men there 7) the possibility of bringing technicians on a contract basis to India.

Of course, we shall be submitting a detailed report about these things to the Ministry concerned.

Regarding our visit to Paris, London and Geneva, we attended the Chamber of Deputies in France, and I attended the U.N.O. inaugural meeting also. In London we visited the sessions of the House of Commons & the House of Lords and had some informal talks with some members of Parliament. At Geneva we visited a number of watch-making factories. The industry and the precision with which they work is something very admirable. We visited also The printing Press at La-chaux de-fondres, which printed Gandhi memorial stamps.

I visited Cairo also for 2 days and saw a few Parliamentarians, the Speaker

of the Legislative Assembly there, the Minister of Agriculture and also spent about 4 hours in an Agricultural Research station where experiments on cotton, on Indian wheat, on Corn, and (Indian) buffaloes are carried on. One of the Parliamentarians there Mr. Attar - Abbifi Bey obliged me by keeping his car at my disposal for a whole day.

As we had an opportunity to travel by car in Italy, France & Switzerland we could have a fair idea of the countryside, as well as of the life of the agriculturists.

But on the whole I find that I am more conscious of what I have not seen rather than of what I have seen. I need not make this letter heavy by writing more.

I do not know when the Constituent Assembly exactly meets. However, I shall be there at that time and if necessary give you more particulars which you may require. One thing, however, is quite clear that the World is ill-informed about India and unfortunately our neighbours who were part & parcel of India carry on a persistent propaganda against India. This can be counteracted only by a long range programme of keeping the World better informed of what is being done in India & by taking advantage of every international platform that offers itself.

Yours Sincerely,

R Desai

205

1, Aurangazeb Road,
New Delhi, 11.10.1948.

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your letter No. 10/28 dated the 5th October 1948.

This is for the first time that I am hearing from you that there is any scheme for the amalgamation of the different units of Rajputana. Of course, if you can work for it, nothing like it. You can then settle both the future and the interim arrangements under the new dispensation, as you like.

Yours sincerely,

Shri. Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava,
M.A., LL.B., M.L.A.,
Member of Constituent Assembly of India,
AJMER.

V.

Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava
M. A., LL. B. ADVOCATE.
M. L. A. (CENTRAL).
MEMBER THE
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY
OF INDIA.

Ajmer 5th October, 1948.

10/28

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My Dear Sardar Sahab,

I respectfully draw your attention to the various resolutions enclosed herewith adopted by the Ajmer-Merwara Provincial Congress Committee as also by the Political Conferences of the Ajmer-Merwara Province held at Ajmer, Beawar and Mhow in the years 1947 and 1948.

From these resolutions it would be obvious that the Ajmer-Merwara has always stood for one Rajasthan and the news that have recently appeared in a number of newspapers that the scheme for the amalgamation of the different units of Rajputana including Ajmer-Merwara into one Union of Rajasthan is nearing completion have been welcomed in all quarters here. I do not know how far these news are reliable. So far the Ajmer-Merwara Provincial Congress Committee is not aware of any move in this direction though it certainly would welcome any such move and I am confident that the State Ministry before taking any final decision on the subject will afford every opportunity to the Ajmer-Merwara Provincial Congress Committee also to have its say on the matter.

I enclose herewith two cuttings one from 'Navjyoti' of Ajmer and the other from 'Lokbani' of Jaipur, wherein it is stated that Jaipur is likely to be selected as the Capital of the newly created Rajputana Union. This has naturally caused a good deal of discontent and dissatisfaction here in as much as the people here feel that Ajmer alone by virtue of its historical, geographical and strategic importance is entitled to be made the capital of the Union.

I have every hope that the case of Ajmer will not go by default and the Provincial

Congress Committee, Ajmer, will have every opportunity to represent its own views on the scheme before it is given the final shape.

Yours sincerely,

(MUKAT BEHARILAL BHARGA-VA).

The Hon'ble Sardar Ballabh Bhai J. Patel,
Deputy Prime Minister,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा पोलिटिकल कांफ्रेन्स, अजमेर

१२ जुलाई १९४७

प्रस्ताव नं० १

अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा राजनैतिक कांफ्रेन्स का यह विशेष अधिवेशन प्रान्तीय कांग्रेस के भूत पूर्व प्रधान श्री अर्जुनलाल सेठी, श्री गौरीशंकर भार्गव तथा श्री रामगोपाल शर्मा, श्री चांदमल आदि अन्य कार्यकर्त्ताओं के निधन पर शोक प्रकट करती है और उनके परिवार के साथ हार्दिक समवेदना प्रकट करती है।

प्रस्ताव नं० २

अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा राजनैतिक कान्फ्रेंस यह महसूस करती है कि विधान परिषद संघ विधान कमेटी ने जो सिफारिश की है चीफ कमिश्नर के प्रांतों में अन्तरीम काल में मौजूदा व्यवस्था ही कायम रहे उससे इस प्रांत के निवासियों की आकांक्षाओं की पूर्ती नहीं होती तथा ऐसे समय में जबकि भारत स्वतंत्र हो रहा है तथा जनता के बुनियादी अधिकारों के आधार पर उसकी नई व्यवस्था बनने जा रही है, यह चीज उनकी उत्तर दायी शासन की वाजिब मांग को संतुष्ट नहीं कर सकती।

अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा राजनैतिक कान्फ्रेन्स की यह निश्चित और दृढ़ राय है कि अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा को भारतीय संघ के अन्य प्रान्तों के अनुसार पूर्ण स्वशासित प्रान्त बनाया जाय। साथ ही अजमेर मेरवाड़ा को यह भी अधिकार रहे कि वह अपने पड़ौसी किसी ऐसे प्रान्त में शामिल हो जाय या रियासतों के किसी ऐसे संघ या समूह के साथ सम्बन्ध स्थापित करले जो उसकी भौगोलिक सीमा पर हों तथा जिसके साथ सांस्कृतिक एकता और भाषा की समानता हो।

इस लिए यह राजनैतिक कांफ्रेन्स भारतीय विधान परिषद से अनुरोध करती है कि वह विधान बनाते समय अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा की जनता की इस मांग को मंजूर करे।

प्रस्ताव १—शासन सुधार

ऐतिहासिक, भौगोलिक, सांस्कृतिक तथा अन्य दृष्टियों से अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा राजपूताने का ही एक अखण्ड अंग है और उसका सर्वांगीण विकास तभी सम्भव है कि जब सारा राजपूताना लोकतन्त्री शासन के आधार पर एक इकाई बने। इसी एकीकरण में ही सारे राजपूताने का हित है। विभिन्न संघों और खंडित राजस्थान में नहीं। इस सम्मेलन की राय में अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा तथा राजपूताने के दीगर रियासतों के प्रतिनिधियों को मिल कर इस संबन्ध में जल्दी विचार करना चाहिये तथा अखण्ड राजस्थान की नई योजना बना कर उचित अवसर पर उसे कार्यान्वित करने का प्रयास करना चाहिये।

साथ ही इस सम्मेलन का यह मत है कि जहाँ चारों ओर लोकतन्त्री शासन स्थापित हो रहे हैं वहाँ अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा में जनता के प्रतिनिधियों का शासन में कोई हाथ न होना, वहाँ की राजनैतिक प्रगति तथा उन्नति के मार्ग में बाधक हो रहा है।

अतः यह सम्मेलन भारत सरकार से अनुरोध करता है कि जब तक अखण्ड राजस्थान का निर्माण न हो तब तक अन्तरिम काल के लिये ऐसा प्रबन्ध करे कि अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा के रोजमर्रा के शासन में जनता के प्रतिनिधियों का भी हाथ हो।

—ज्वालाप्रसाद

प्रस्ताव २—इस्तमुरारदारी

आज भारत राजनैतिक दृष्टि से पूर्णतया स्वतन्त्र हो चुका है किन्तु सामाजिक विषमता तथा वर्ग भेद अभी तक विद्यमान है। देश की महान् संस्था कांग्रेस ने इस विषमता को दूर करने का बीड़ा उठा रखा है। देश के अन्य भागों

वर्गों की उत्पादन शक्ति में वृद्धि करने का शीघ्र प्रबन्ध करे जिससे अनेक छोटे मोटे उद्योग धन्धे प्रान्त में स्थापित किये जा सकें और जनता विशेष कर सिंध के आगन्तुक जनों को काम मिले और तैयार माल की वृद्धि हो।

साथ ही यह सम्मेलन प्रान्तीय कांग्रेस कमेटी से प्रार्थना करता है कि अजमेर-मेरवाड़े के उद्योग-धन्धों में वृद्धि के साधनों की जाँच के लिए एक उप-समिति स्थापित करे जो पूर्ण जाँच करने के पश्चात् अपने सुझाव प्रान्तीय काँग्रेस कमेटी के पास प्रस्तुत करे। —स्वीकृत

प्रस्ताव ७—स्थानीय तथा आगन्तुक जन

यह सम्मेलन प्रान्त की स्थानीय जनता तथा आगन्तुक सिंधी जनता के बीच मतभेद के उगते हुये अंकुरों को प्रान्त की सर्वाङ्ग उन्नति के लिये घातक समझता है और स्थानीय तथा नवागन्तुक जनता से अपील करता है कि वह प्रत्येक कार्य में एक दूसरे के दृष्टिकोण को समझने का प्रयत्न करें और संघर्ष तथा मतभेद का अवसर न आने दें। साथ ही यह सम्मेलन आवश्यक समझता है कि जनता के इन दोनों अंगो में पारस्परिक मेल-जोल, सम्पर्क तथा एक दूसरे के संबन्ध में अधिक जानकारी व समझदारी बढ़ाने के लिये मिले-जुले प्रयत्नों को प्रोत्साहित किया जाय। —महेशदत्तजी भार्गव

—सर्व सम्मति से पास हुआ

प्रस्ताव ८—स्वामी कुमारानन्दजी की रिहाई

अजमेर-मेरवाड़ा की यह राजनैतिक कान्फ्रेंस के जन्मदाता, वयोवृद्ध व्यावर कांग्रेस नेता एवं स्थानीय अग्रणी कार्य-कर्त्ता स्वामी श्री कुमारानन्दजी की रिहाई उनका वय और स्वास्थ्य देखते हुये ठीक समझती है। इसलिये सरकार से अनुरोध करती है कि श्रद्धेय स्वामीजी को शीघ्र रिहा कर दे।

मुल्क के आज़ाद होने के पश्चात यह तो निश्चित ही था कि रियासती जनता भी शीघ्र ही आंदोलन से मुक्ति पाकर अपनी प्रतिनिधिक सरकार कायम करने में सफलता हासिल करेगी, फिर भी भारत सरकार के गृह मंत्रि एवं रियासती विभाग के प्रमुख सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल ने रियासती जनता की आकांक्षाओं को पूरी करवाने की दिशा में जितनी कुशलता एवं शीघ्रता के साथ जनता की मदद की है उसके लिये यह कांग्रेस सरदार पटेल तथा उनके सहयोगियों के प्रति कृतज्ञता प्रगट करती है और जनता की भावनाओं एवं भलाई को ध्यान में रखते हुए आवश्यक समझती है कि ......

राजपूताना एवं मध्यभारत की रियासतों का अजमेर मेरवाड़ा सहित राजपूताना और मध्यभारत की दो पृथक इकाईयों में अविलंब एकीकरण करके भारतीय संघ के दो बड़े प्रांतों का निर्माण किया जावे जिसमें उन रियासतों का समावेश हो जो भौगोलिक, ऐतिहासिक, सांस्कृतिक, राजनैतिक और भाषा के आधार पर राजपूताना और मध्यभारत के ही अंग हैं, इन प्रांतों के क्षेत्र में बनाये गये नये यूनिटों को तथा सभी रियासतों को चाहे वे कितनी ही बड़ी क्यों न हों, जनता की राय से नए बनने वाले प्रांतों में शरीक किया जावे।

इस प्रकार एकीकरण किये हुवे हिस्सों में सत्ता का स्रोत (आधार) जनता को माना जाये, और इण्डियन यूनियन के अन्तर्गत विधान बनाने के लिये जनता के प्रतिनिधियों की सर्वसत्ताधारी विधान परिषदों का निर्माण किया जाय. तथा विधान बनने तक के लिये अन्तःकालीन समय के वास्ते प्रत्येक प्रांत के लिये एक एक अन्तर्कालीन लोकप्रिय सरकार तथा धारासभा का निर्माण किया जावे।

यदि उपर्युक्त दोनों यूनिटों के सीमाओं पर स्थित किसी रियासतों को किसी एक यूनिट में शरीक करने या न करने के संबंध में कोई संतोषजनक हल न निकल सके तो इस बात का फैसला संबंधित रियासत की जनता के मत लेकर किया जाये. यदि इन यूनिटों के नाम अथवा राजधानी जैसे प्रश्नों पर भी कोई बड़ा मतभेद उत्पन्न हो तो इन बातों का आखरी फैसला सारे प्रांत के हित की दृष्टि से जनता का मत लेकर किया जावे।

यह कांग्रेस प्रांतीय कांग्रेस कार्यसमिति को सिफारिश करती है कि वह इस प्रस्ताव को कार्य रूप में परिणित करवाने के लिये देशी राज्य लोक परिषद से सहयोग करे।

[illegible] प्र. मं.

जयपुर राजस्थान संघ की राजधानी बनेगा (?)

पूंजीपतियों व सरकारी मंत्रियों की मिली भगत के घातक परिणाम की संभावना

चुपके चुपके राजस्थान का जिगर 'सिरोही' को छीनने का षड़यन्त्र

(हमारे राजनीतिक सम्वाददाता द्वारा)

अजमेर, २२ सितम्बर।

जानकार लोगों में यह चर्चा काफी जोरों पर है कि जयपुर के पूंजीपति, जिनका केंद्रीय सरकार के कुछ मंत्रियों से गहरा सम्बन्ध है यह प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं कि होने वाले राजस्थान यूनियन की राजधानी जयपुर हो। यह भी कहा जाता है कि अन्दर ही अन्दर यह कोशिश काफी आगे बढ़ रही है और अगर मौजूदा राजस्थान संघ, जोधपुर, बीकानेर मत्स्य व अजमेर मेरवाड़ा आदि के नरेश, जागीरदार, लोक नेता व जनता समय रहते नहीं चेते तो किसी दिन अकस्मात् उन्हें यह सुनने को मिलेगा कि रियासती सचिवालय ने यह तै किया है कि राजपूताना की सारी रियासतों का एक संघ होगा और उसकी राजधानी जयपुर रहेगी।

हाँ, सिरोही इससे जरूर अलग रक्खा जायगा और उसे लोगों के उभार को ठंडा हो जाने पर गुजरात में मिला दिया जायगा। इस बात के विश्वास करने के कारण अभी से स्पष्ट दीखने लगे हैं। सिरोही को गुजरात स्टेट्स के रीजनल कमिश्नर

चुपके चुपके राजस्थान का जिगर 'सिरोही' को छीनने का षड़यन्त्र

(हमारे राजनीतिक सम्वाददाता द्वारा)

जयपुर, २२ सितम्बर।

'जानकार लोगों में यह चर्चा जोरों पर है कि जयपुर के कुछ व्यक्ति, जिनका केंद्रीय सरकार के कुछ मंत्रियों से गहरा सम्बन्ध है यह प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं कि होने वाले राजस्थान यूनियन की राजधानी जयपुर हो। यह भी कहा जाता है कि अन्दर ही अन्दर यह कोशिश काफी जोरों पर रही है और अगर मौजूदा राजस्थान संघ, जोधपुर, बीकानेर जैसलमेर व अजमेर मेरवाड़ा आदि के नरेश, जागीरदार, लोक नेता व जनता समय रहते नहीं चेते तो किसी दिन अकस्मात् उन्हें यह सुनने को मिलेगा कि रियासती मन्त्रिमंडल ने यह तै किया है कि राजपूताना की सारी रियासतों का एक संघ होगा और उसकी राजधानी जयपुर रहेगी।

हाँ, सिरोही इससे जरूर अलग रक्खा जायगा और उसे लोगों के बुखार को ठंडा हो जाने पर गुजरात में मिला दिया जायगा। इस बात के विश्वास करने के कारण अभी से स्पष्ट दीखने लगे हैं। सिरोही को गुजरात स्टेट्स के रीजनल कमिश्नर के मातहत करना और राजपूताना [illegible] अलग रखना इसके प्रमाण हैं। क्यों न हो [illegible] ज्यादा गाढ़ा होता है। राजपूताना को रियासतों के लिए चाहे पहाड़ की जरूरत न हो, गुजरातियों का आबू-पहाड़ की सैर का एक (१) कैसे छीना जा सकता है?

हमारी समझ में यह भी नहीं आया कि जब तक कि सिरोही राजपूताना कॉम्प्रेस से अलग रक्खी गई है तो सिरोही कॉम्प्रेस के सदस्य श्री गोकुलभाई राजपूताना कॉम्प्रेस के अध्यक्ष कौनसे विधान के अनुसार रह सकते हैं। नैतिकता और विधान दोनों ही दृष्टि से यह बात हमें खटपटी लगती है। वैसे भी गोकुलभाई के व्यक्तित्व पर हमें पूरी श्रद्धा और विश्वास है।

राजस्थान की हलचल—

अजमेर की साप्ताहिक चिट्ठी

राजपूताना का नव-निर्माण ?

चीफ कमिश्नर की नियुक्ति का प्रश्न : गांधी सप्ताह का आयोजन : सलाहकार समिति का उपचुनाव

[हमारे प्रतिनिधि द्वारा]

अजमेर (डाक से) — यहां के राजनितिक क्षेत्रों में आम चर्चा है कि भारत सरकार का रियासती सचिवालय राजपूताना को एक प्रांत बना देने की नयी योजना पर विचार कर रहा है। इस योजना के अनुसार संयुक्त राजस्थान राज्य, मत्स्य संघ, जोधपुर, जयपुर और संभवतः अजमेर मेरवाड़ा भी राजपूताना प्रान्त में सम्मिलित होंगे तथा जयपुर इसकी राजधानी बनेगा।

चीफ कमिश्नर की नियुक्ति

अजमेर मेरवाड़ा के चीफकमिश्नर की नियुक्ति के प्रश्न पर भी आजकल आम चर्चा है। इस पद के लिए श्री भिंडे और श्री खुर्शीद अहमद के नाम लिए जा रहे हैं, जिनमें श्री खुर्शीद अहमद की अधिक संभावना है। आप पहले अजमेर मेरवाड़ा और दिल्ली के चीफ कमिश्नर रह चुके हैं।

पार्लियामेंट्री बोर्ड का आदेश

कांग्रेस केंद्रीय पार्लियामेंट्री बोर्ड ने निश्चय किया है कि सलाहकार समिति के कांग्रेसी सदस्य अपना त्यागपत्र वापस लेलें, क्योंकि वहां के विधान पर अभी विचार किया जा रहा है। इसी तरह का आदेश कांग्रेस के महामंत्री श्री शंकर राव देव से भी प्राप्त हुआ है।

बस कंडक्टर का खून

पुलिस के सिपाही ने मजाक में एक खाली बन्दूक दागदी जिसमें हवाई छर्रे थे। निशाना एक बस कन्डक्टर पर लगा और वह [illegible]

फुटबॉल टूर्नामेंट

यहां जीमखाना मैदान में ता० २५ सितम्बर से अ० भा० फुटबाल टूर्नामेंट प्रारंभ हो रहे हैं। भारत के कई शहरों से इसमें टीमें भाग लेने को आ रही हैं।

गांधी सप्ताह

विद्यार्थी कांग्रेस ने ता. २६ से २ अक्टूबर तक गांधी सप्ताह मनाने का निश्चय किया है। ता० ३० को प्रान्तीय कांग्रेस के अध्यक्ष श्री मुकुटबिहारीलाल भार्गव की अध्यक्षता में स्कूलों व कालेजों का सम्मेलन हो रहा है जिसमें जिले के शिक्षा संबंधी प्रश्नों व छात्रों की कठिनाइयों पर विचार होगा। संभवतः ता. ३१ को राजपूताना विद्यार्थी कांग्रेस की कार्यसमिति की बैठक भी यहीं होगी।

सलाहकार समिति का उप-चुनाव

चीफ कमिश्नर की सलाहकार समिति में मिर्जा अब्दुल कादिर बेग के रिक्त स्थान के लिए उपचुनाव में चार उम्मीदवार सैय्यद अब्बासअली व सेठ बृजमोहन (कांग्रेस) सेठ कानमल (स्वतंत्र केकड़ी) तथा चौधरी भागीरथसिंह (स्वतन्त्र) खड़े हुए हैं। सैयद अब्बासअली की विजय की पूर्ण सम्भावना है।

प्रस्ताव

प्रांतीय कांग्रेस कार्यकारिणी की यह बैठक महसूस करती है कि प्रांतीय सरकार के व उसके कर्मचारी का रवैया कांग्रेस के प्रति विश्वास तथा सहयोग के साथ काम करने का नहीं रहा है, बल्कि उनका रवैया इस प्रकार का रहा है कि जिससे कांग्रेस जनता की निगाह में गिर जाए।

समिति यह भी महसूस करती है कि यह असहयोग व उदासीनता की भावना ही सरकार के कर्मचारियों की नियुक्ति व शासन में जनता के प्रतिनिधियों का किसी प्रकार का हाथ न होना ही है। उत्तरदायी कौंसिल की स्थापना से शासन प्रणाली में कोई अन्तर नहीं आया है, बल्कि इससे उलटा जनता में जो आशा की लहर पैदा हुई थी वह समाप्त हो गई और उलटा उससे जनता में असंतोष की लहर और भी बढ़ी।

ऐसी स्थिति में समिति की यह बैठक उत्तरदायी कौंसिल के कांग्रेसी सदस्य द्वारा दिये गये त्याग पत्र का समर्थन करती है व केन्द्रीय पार्लियामेंटरी बोर्ड तथा कांग्रेस कार्यकारिणी से आग्रह अनुरोध करती है कि वे भारत सरकार पर दबाव डालें कि वह अजमेर मेरवाड़ा के शासन में शीघ्र ही उचित परिवर्तन करें जिससे कि शासन में जनता के प्रतिनिधियों का पूरा हाथ रहे।

साथ ही यह बैठक केन्द्रीय पार्लियामेंटरी बोर्ड से प्रार्थना करती है कि वह इस समिति को इस संबंध में सब पत्रव्यवहार को प्रकाशित करने की आज्ञा प्रदान करे। समिति यह भी महसूस करती है कि अब ऐसी स्थिति पैदा हो गई है कि स्थानीय कांग्रेस को जनता में वास्तविक स्थिति का स्पष्टीकरण करने तथा स्थानीय सरकार की कार्यवाहियों की खुली आलोचना करने की छूट प्राप्त हो।

ह.प.

214

Lucknow
9.10.48.

Dear Sardar Saheb,

I am herewith enclosing a brief report giving a few personal impressions of our tour in Europe. It is meant for yourself and the Prime minister. The detailed and formal report will be ~~reported~~ prepared when Diwakar comes (he must have returned to Hubli by this time).

with respectful regards

Yours Sincerely

B Meskar

11/10

Confidential

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Brief report of the visit of Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Rome.

The detailed report of our Delegation's work at the Inter-Parliamentary Conference and the tour of Italian Industrial Centre will be submitted later on. I am here submitting a brief summary giving my general impressions about the things we saw there :-

We arrived in Rome on the 5th September night and remained there till the 12th. The Conference lasted till the 11th.

Parliamentary Delegates from 39 countries attended this Session which was the first held after the War. After our arrival we had talks with Lord Stansgate and Mr. Boissier, President and Secretary of the Union, who were very keen about our active participationin the work of the Conference. They considered the entry of India as a great event in the annals of the Union.

During the period of the Conference we made personal contacts and held discussions with delegates from Burma, Egypt, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia, France, and England. The Burmese took a very active part in the work of the Conference and tabled a number of amendments. The Egyptians were also very active but their attitude was not so progressive. Mr. U Tin from Burma and H.E.Heykal Pasha and Affifi Babey from Egypt were the leading participants. The Czechs, Poles and Yugoslavs generally took a concerted line of action in the debates or in voting. The Czechs and Yugoslavs were keenly interested in India and I had many friendly discussions with them. They suggested that a Parliamentary Group from India should visit their country for a tour and promised to give a great reception to any visit from Indian Parliamentarians. Their enthusiasm was great and even Lord Stansgate confessed to me that their enthusiasm reminded him of the old old days of the Labour Party when people believed in ideals and worked for them.

The idea of a visit to Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia is worth taking into consideration in the near future.

The British Delegation was a big one and we had many meetings with the important members of that Group. Worth mentioning among them are the names of Major Milner, Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, Maurice Edelman and Sir Frank Sanderson. We were also invited to a reception at the British Embassy. Amongst the French I had many discussions with Mr. Bastide, Leader of the Delegation. The American Delegation was a big one led by Senator Barkeley, but unfortunately due to want of time we could only have just a little contact with them. The Phillipine Delegates were interesting but generally took a line after the Americans. The Belgians were quite an active Group, but we were not able to contact them much, excepting for a conversation with Count Carton De Wiart, Leader of the Delegation.

The Italian Delegation was a big one and over and above a conversation with Count Sforza, their leader, I took the opportunity of meeting Italian Parliamentarians from different parties like the Catholics, the social democrats and the socialists.

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The Inter-Parliamentary Union is, we found, at present very much under Anglo-Saxon influence, with France coming in the third place. But the entry of Asiatic countries is bringing about a gradual change. Unfortunately most of the work of the Conference was done in Committees beforehand and as observers we could not participate in their work. In the future when we will be able to participate in the work of the Committees I think we will be able to influence the work of the Conference much more. The Burmese and Egyptian suggested a preliminary meeting of Asiatic countries before beginning of the next Conference so that we can all chalk out a concerted line of action in the Conference. It is due to want of any preliminary understanding that the question of the entry of Indonesia could not be taken up.

On the whole, I think that the Union does serve a useful purpose as a platform for exchanging ideas with Parliamentarians from all over the world. The method of counting votes is such that India with her three hundred millions will exercise great influence by the number of votes that she has. I suggested to both the President and the Secretary to visit India at an early date and I also ventured to suggest to them that India might be a possible venue of the Conference in 1950 or 1951. They welcomed this suggestion.

During the visit to Paris, we visited the French National Assembly. I had interviews with Mon. Ramadier Ex-Premier and at present Minister of National Defence, and Mons. Harriot, President of the Assembly. My conversation with M.Ramadier was an interesting one. He himself came to the question of French India and he seemed to suggest that France was not opposed to a merger of French India with the rest of the country, but did not venture to accept such a proposal at this moment because of the possible effect it might have on other French Colonies. He said that French India was financially not worth much to France, but if the example would become contagious in other French Colonies which were very big and valuable, then it might become serious for them. For that reason, he told me that while he was Premier, he had an idea of proposing an economic and administrative Union with India though outwardly keeping French India a separate entity. He even went so far as to suggest accepting Indian official for governing French India. Most probably he is going to bring this proposal again before the French Cabinet in the near future.

In our visit to London we visited the House of Commons and the House of Lords and met many prominent members of both the Houses.

In both France and England I regretfully found a lack of propaganda on behalf of our country. Not much effort appeared to be made trying to explain the Indian point of view with regard to recent happenings. In France the defect appeared to be mainly due to the fact that most of the officials of our Embassy have hardly any contact with French Journalistic and literary circles, and there is a general want of sufficient knowledge of French or France. In England the office of the High Commissioner is naturally in a position of embarrassment as it cannot officially do propaganda in the way that it should be done. I would suggest the creation of a semi-official or even non-official cultural and propaganda centre in London which can very freely go about and do and say things which the High Commissioner and his office cannot do. The need for such a Centre is keenly felt by a prominent Indian living in London and

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England. I think this suggestion should be taken into active consideration.

With regard to France, I would suggest the creation of a Cultural Centre with some persons who know French well and who have some knowledge of France and her people. This Centre can serve thepurpose of diffusion of Indian thoughts, culture and events all over Continental Europe, but it is necessary for the success of any such Centre to have a competent personality at the head who should be of a literary and artistic abilities and not an official.

In passing I would like to mention the great help and cordial co-operation that we got from our Legation in Berne in visiting various watch-manufacturing centres in Switzerland.

9.10.48

B V Keskar